

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ : C12N15/32, A01N 63/00</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: WO 90/15139 (43) International Publication Date: 13 December 1990 (13.12.90)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP90/00905 (22) International Filing Date: 30 May 1990 (30.05.90) (30) Priority data: 89401499.2 31 May 1989 (31.05.89) EP (34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed: AT et al. (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): PLANT GENETIC SYSTEMS N.V. [BE/BE]; Kolonel Bourgstraat 106, B-1040 Brussels (BE). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only) : VAN MELLAERT, Herman [BE/BE]; Wilselsesteenweg 19, B-3200 Leuven (BE). BOTTERMAN, Johan [BE/BE]; Het Wijngaardeke 5, B-9721 Zevegem-De Pinte (BE). VAN RIE, Jeroen [BE/BE]; Gravin Johannalaan 10, B-9900 Eeklo (BE). JOOS, Henk [BE/BE]; Oostmolen Zuid 5, B-9880 Aalter (BE).</p>		<p>(74) Agents: GUTMANN, Ernest et al.; Ernest Gutmann-Yves Plasseraud S.A., 67, boulevard Haussmann, F-75008 Paris (FR). (81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, US. Published With international search report.</p>
<p>(54) Title: PREVENTION OF Bt RESISTANCE DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>(57) Abstract</p> <p>Plants made resistant to insects by transforming their nuclear genome with two or more DNA sequences, each encoding a different non-competitively binding <i>B. thuringiensis</i> protoxin or insecticidal part thereof, preferably the toxin thereof.</p>		

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AT	Austria	ES	Spain	MC	Monaco
AU	Australia	FI	Finland	MG	Madagascar
BB	Barbados	FR	France	ML	Mali
BE	Belgium	GA	Gabon	MR	Mauritania
BF	Burkina Faso	GB	United Kingdom	MW	Malawi
BG	Bulgaria	GR	Greece	NL	Netherlands
BJ	Benin	HU	Hungary	NO	Norway
BR	Brazil	IT	Italy	RO	Romania
CA	Canada	JP	Japan	SD	Sudan
CF	Central African Republic	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	SE	Sweden
CG	Congo	KR	Republic of Korea	SN	Senegal
CH	Switzerland	LI	Liechtenstein	SU	Soviet Union
CM	Cameroon	LK	Sri Lanka	TD	Chad
DE	Germany, Federal Republic of	LU	Luxembourg	TG	Togo
DK	Denmark			US	United States of America

PREVENTION OF Bt RESISTANCE DEVELOPMENT

This invention relates to plant cells and plants, the genomes of which are transformed to contain at least two genes, each coding for a different non-competitively binding Bacillus thuringiensis ("B.thuringiensis" or "Bt") insecticidal crystal protein ("ICP") for a specific target insect species, preferably belonging to the order of Lepidoptera or Coleoptera. Such transformed plants have advantages over plants transformed with a single B. thuringiensis ICP gene, especially with respect to the prevention of resistance development in the target insect species against the at least two B. thuringiensis ICPs, expressed in such plants.

This invention also relates to a process for the production of such transgenic plants, taking into account the competitive and non-competitive binding properties of the at least two B. thuringiensis ICPs in the target insect species' midgut. Simultaneous expression in plants of the at least two genes, each coding for a different non-competitively binding B. thuringiensis ICP in plants, is particularly useful to prevent or delay resistance development of insects against the at least two B. thuringiensis ICPs expressed in the plants.

This invention further relates to a process for the construction of novel plant expression vectors and to the novel plant expression vectors themselves, which contain the at least two B. thuringiensis ICP genes encoding the at least two non-competitively binding B. thuringiensis ICPs. Such vectors allow integration and coordinate expression of the at least two B. thuringiensis ICP genes in plants.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Since the development and the widespread use of chemical insecticides, the occurrence of resistant insect strains has been an important problem. Development of insecticide resistance is a phenomenon dependent on biochemical, physiological, genetic and ecological mechanisms. Currently, insect resistance has been reported against all major classes of chemical insecticides including chlorinated hydrocarbons, organophosphates, carbamates, and pyrethroid compounds (Brattsten et al., 1986).

In contrast to the rapid development of insect resistance to synthetic insecticides, development of insect resistance to bacterial insecticides such as B. thuringiensis sprays has evolved slowly despite many years of use (Brattsten et al., 1986). The spore forming gram-positive bacterium B. thuringiensis produces a parasporal crystal which is composed of crystal proteins (ICPs) having insecticidal activity. Important factors decreasing the probability of emergence of resistant insect strains in the field against B. thuringiensis sprays are: firstly the short half-life of B. thuringiensis sprays after foliar application; secondly the fact that commercial B. thuringiensis preparations often consist of a mixture of several insecticidal factors including spores, ICPs and eventually beta-exotoxins (Shields, 1987); and thirdly the transitory nature of plant-pest interactions. Many successful field trials have shown that commercial preparations of a B. thuringiensis containing its spore-crystal complex, effectively control lepidopterous pests in agriculture and forestry (Krieg and Langenbruch, 1981). B. thuringiensis is at present the most widely used pathogen for microbial control of insect pests.

Various laboratory studies, in which selection against B. thuringiensis was applied over several generations of insects, have confirmed that resistance against B. thuringiensis is seldom obtained. However, it should be emphasized that the laboratory conditions represented rather low selection pressure conditions.

For example, Goldman et al. (1986) have applied selection with B. thuringiensis israelensis toxin over 14 generations of Aedes aegypti and found only a marginal decrease in sensitivity. The lack of any observable trend toward decreasing susceptibility in the selected strains may be a reflection of the low selection pressure (LC_{50}) carried out over a limited number of generations. However, it should be pointed out that Georghiou et al. (In : Insecticide Resistance in Mosquitoes : Research on new chemicals and techniques for management. In "Mosquito Control Research, Annual Report 1983, University of California.") with Culex quinquefasciatus obtained an 11-fold increase in resistance to B. thuringiensis israelensis after 32 generations at LC_{95} selection pressure.

McGaughey (1985) reported that the grain storage pest Plodia interpunctella developed resistance to the spore-crystal complex of B. thuringiensis; after 15 generations of selection with the Indian meal moth, Plodia interpunctella, using a commercial B. thuringiensis HD-1 preparation ("Dipel", Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, Illinois 60064, USA), a 100-fold decrease in B. thuringiensis sensitivity was reported. Each of the colonies was cultured for several generations on a diet treated with a constant B. thuringiensis dosage which was expected to produce 70-90% larval mortality. Under these high selection pressure conditions, insect resistance to B.

thuringiensis increased rapidly. More recently, development of resistance against B. thuringiensis is also reported for the almond moth, Cadra cautella (McGaughey and Beeman, 1988). Resistance was stable when selection was discontinued and was inherited as a recessive trait (McGaughey and Beeman, 1988). The mechanism of insect resistance to B. thuringiensis toxins of Plodia interpunctella and Cadra cautella has not been elucidated.

The main cause of B. thuringiensis resistance development in both reported cases involving grain storage was the environmental conditions prevailing during the grain storage. Under the conditions in both cases, the environment was relatively stable, so B. thuringiensis degradation was slow and permitted successive generations of the pest to breed in the continuous presence of the microbial insecticide. The speed at which Plodia developed resistance to B. thuringiensis in one study suggests that it could do so within one single storage season in the bins of treated grain.

Although insect resistance development against B. thuringiensis has mostly been observed in laboratory and pilot scale studies, very recent indications of B. thuringiensis resistance development in Plutella xylostella populations in the (cabbage) field have been reported (Kirsch and Schmutterer, 1988). A number of factors have led to a continuous exposure of P. xylostella to B. thuringiensis in a relatively small geographic area. This and the short generation cycle of P. xylostella have seemingly led to an enormous selection pressure resulting in decreased susceptibility and increased resistance to B. thuringiensis.

A procedure for expressing a B. thuringiensis ICP gene in plants in order to render the plants insect-resistant (European patent publication ("EP") 0193259 [which is incorporated herein by reference]; Vaeck et al., 1987; Barton et al., 1987; Fischhoff et al., 1987) provides an entirely new approach to insect control in agriculture which is at the same time safe, environmentally attractive and cost-effective. An important determinant for the success of this approach will be whether insects will be able to develop resistance to B. thuringiensis ICPs expressed in transgenic plants (Vaeck et al., 1987; Barton et al., 1987; Fischhoff et al., 1987). In contrast with a foliar application, after which B. thuringiensis ICPs are rapidly degraded, the transgenic plants will exert a continuous selection pressure. It is clear from laboratory selection experiments that a continuous selection pressure has led to adaptation to B. thuringiensis and its components in several insect species. In this regard, it should be pointed out that the conditions in the laboratory which resulted in the development of insect-resistance to B. thuringiensis are very similar to the situation with transgenic plants which produce B. thuringiensis ICPs and provide a continuous selection pressure on insect populations feeding on the plants. Mathematical models of selection pressure predict that, if engineered insect-resistant plants become a permanent part of their environment, resistance development in insects will emerge rapidly (Gould, 1988). Thus, the chances for the development of insect resistance to B. thuringiensis in transgenic plants may be considerably increased as compared to the field application of B. thuringiensis sprays. A Heliothis virescens strain has been reported that is 20 times more resistant to B. thuringiensis HD-1 ICP

produced by transgenic Pseudomonas fluorescens and 6 times more resistant to the pure ICP (Stone et al., 1989). Furthermore, the monetary and human costs of resistance are difficult to assess, but loss of pesticide effectiveness invariably entails increased application frequencies and dosages and, finally, more expensive replacement compounds as new pesticides become more difficult to discover and develop.

Therefore, it would be desirable to develop means for delaying or even preventing the evolution of resistance to B. thuringiensis.

B. thuringiensis strains, active against Lepidoptera (Dulmage et al., 1981), Diptera (Goldberg and Margalit, 1977) and Coleoptera (Krieg et al., 1983), have been described. It has become clear that there is a substantial heterogeneity among ICPs from different strains active against Lepidoptera, as well as among ICPs from strains active against Coleoptera (Hofte and Whiteley, 1989). An overview of the different B. thuringiensis ICP genes, that have been characterized, is given in Table 2 (which follows the Examples herein).

Most of the anti-Lepidopteran B. thuringiensis (e.g., Bt3, Bt2, Bt73, Bt14, Bt15, Bt4, Bt18) ICP genes encode 130 to 140 kDa protoxins which dissolve in the alkaline environment of an insect's midgut and are proteolytically activated into an active toxin of 60-65 kDa. These ICPs are related and can be recognized as members of the same family based on sequence homologies. The sequence divergence however is substantial, and the insecticidal spectrum, among the order Lepidoptera, may be substantially different (Höfte et al., 1988).

The P2 toxin gene and the cry B2 gene are different from the above-mentioned genes in that they

do not encode high molecular weight protoxins but rather toxins of around 70 kDa (Donovan et al., 1988 and Widner and Whiteley, 1989, respectively).

It has recently become clear that heterogeneity exists also in the anti-Coleopteran toxin gene family. Whereas several previously reported toxin gene sequences from different B. thuringiensis isolates with anti-Coleopteran activity were identical (EP 0149162 and 0202739), the sequences and structure of bt21 and bt22 are substantially divergent (European patent application ("EPA") 89400428.2).

While the insecticidal spectra of B. thuringiensis ICPs are different, the major pathway of their toxic action is believed to be common. All B. thuringiensis ICPs, for which the mechanism of action has been studied in any detail, interact with the midgut epithelium of sensitive species and cause lysis of the epithelial cells (Knowles and Ellar, 1986) due to the fact that the permeability characteristics of the brush border membrane and the osmotic balance over this membrane are perturbed. In the pathway of toxic action of B. thuringiensis ICPs, the binding of the toxin to receptor sites on the brush border membrane of these cells is an important feature (Hofmann et al., 1988b). The toxin binding sites in the midgut can be regarded as an ICP-receptor since toxin is bound in a saturable way and with high affinity (Hofmann et al., 1988a).

Although this outline of the mode of action of B. thuringiensis ICPs is generally accepted, it remains a matter of discussion what the essential determinant(s) are for the differences in their insecticidal spectra. Haider et al. (1986) emphasize the importance of specific proteases in the insect midgut. Hofmann et al. (1988b) indicate that receptor binding is a prerequisite for toxic activity and describe that

Pieris brassicae has two distinct receptor populations for two toxins. Other authors have suggested that differences in the environment of the midgut (e.g., pH of the midgut) might be crucial.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with this invention, a plant is provided having, stably integrated into its genome, at least two B. thuringiensis ICP genes encoding at least two non-competitively binding insecticidal B. thuringiensis ICPs, preferably the active toxins thereof, against a specific target insect, preferably against a Lepidoptera or Coleoptera. Such a plant is characterized by the simultaneous expression of the at least two non-competitively binding B. thuringiensis ICPs.

Also in accordance with this invention, at least two ICP genes, particularly two genes or parts thereof coding for two non-competitively binding anti-Lepidopteran or anti-Coleopteran B. thuringiensis ICPs, are cloned into a plant expression vector. Plant cells transformed with this vector are characterized by the simultaneous expression of the at least two B. thuringiensis ICP genes. The resulting transformed plant cell can be used to produce a transformed plant in which the plant cells: 1. contain the at least two B. thuringiensis ICP genes or parts thereof encoding at least two non-competitively binding anti-Lepidopteran or anti-Coleopteran B. thuringiensis ICPs as a stable insert into their genome; and 2. express the genes simultaneously, thereby conferring on the plant improved resistance to at least one target species of insect, so as to prevent or delay development of resistance to B. thuringiensis of the at least one target species of insect feeding on the transformed plant.

Further in accordance with this invention, plant expression vectors are provided which allow integration and simultaneous expression of at least two B. thuringiensis ICP genes in a plant cell and which comprise one or more chimeric genes, each containing in the same transcriptional unit: a promoter which functions in the plant cell to direct the synthesis of mRNA encoded by one of the ICP genes; one or more different ICP genes, each encoding a non-competitively binding B. thuringiensis ICP; preferably a marker gene; a 3' non-translated DNA sequence which functions in the plant cell for 3' end formation and the addition of polyadenylate nucleotides to the 3' end of the mRNA; and optionally a DNA sequence encoding a protease-sensitive protein part between any two ICP genes.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Definitions

As used herein, "B. thuringiensis ICP" (or "ICP") should be understood as an intact protein or a part thereof which has insecticidal activity and which can be produced in nature by B. thuringiensis. An ICP can be a protoxin, as well as an active toxin or another insecticidal truncated part of a protoxin which need not be crystalline and which need not be a naturally occurring protein. In this regard, an ICP can be a chimaeric toxin encoded by the combination of two variable regions of two different ICP genes as disclosed in EP 0228838.

As used herein, "protoxin" should be understood as the primary translation product of a full-length gene encoding an ICP.

As used herein, "toxin", "toxic core" or "active toxin" should all be understood as a part of a protoxin

which can be obtained by protease (e.g., by trypsin) cleavage and has insecticidal activity.

As used herein, "gene" should be understood as a full-length DNA sequence encoding a protein (e.g., such as is found in nature), as well as a truncated fragment thereof encoding at least the active part (i.e., toxin) of the protein encoded by the full-length DNA sequence, preferably encoding just the active part of the protein encoded by the full-length DNA sequence. A gene can be naturally occurring or synthetic.

As used herein, "truncated B. thuringiensis gene" should be understood as a fragment of a full-length B. thuringiensis gene which still encodes at least the toxic part of the B. thuringiensis ICP, preferentially the toxin.

As used herein, "marker gene" should be understood as a gene encoding a selectable marker (e.g., encoding antibiotic resistance) or a screenable marker (e.g., encoding a gene product which allows the quantitative analysis of transgenic plants).

Two ICPs are said to be "competitively binding ICPs" for a target insect species when one ICP competes for all ICP receptors of the other ICP, which receptors are present in the brush border membrane of the midgut of the target insect species.

Two ICPs are said to be "non-competitively binding ICPs" when, for at least one target insect species, the first ICP has at least one receptor for which the second ICP does not compete and the second ICP has at least one receptor for which the first ICP does not compete, which receptors are present in the brush border membrane of the midgut of the target insect species.

A "receptor" should be understood as a molecule, to which a ligand (here a B. thuringiensis ICP,

preferably a toxin) can bind with high affinity (typically a dissociation constant (K_d) between 10^{-11} and $10^{-6}M$) and saturability. A determination of whether two ICPs are competitively or non-competitively binding ICPs can be made by determining whether: 1. a first ICP competes for all of the receptors of a second ICP when all the binding sites of the second ICP with an affinity in the range of about 10^{-11} to $10^{-6}M$ can be saturated with the first ICP in concentrations of the first ICP of about $10^{-5}M$ or less (e.g., down to about $10^{-11}M$); and 2. the second ICP competes for the all of the receptors of the first ICP when all the binding sites of the first ICP with an affinity in the range of about 10^{-11} to $10^{-6}M$ can be saturated with the second ICP in concentrations of the second ICP of about $10^{-5}M$ or less.

General Procedures

This section describes in broad terms general procedures for the evaluation and exploitation of at least two B. thuringiensis ICP genes for prevention of the development, in a target insect, of a resistance to the B. thuringiensis ICPs expressed in transgenic plants of this invention. A non-exhaustive list of consecutive steps in the general procedure follows, after which are described particular Examples that are based on this methodology and that illustrate this invention.

In accordance with this invention, specific B. thuringiensis ICPs can be isolated in a conventional manner from the respective strains such as are listed in Table 2 (which follows the Examples). The ICPs can be used to prepare monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies specific for these ICPs in a conventional manner (Höfte et al., 1988).

The ICP genes can each be isolated from their respective strains in a conventional manner. Preferably, the ICP genes are each identified by: digesting total DNA from their respective strains with suitable restriction enzyme(s); size fractionating the DNA fragments, so produced, into DNA fractions of 5 to 10 Kb; ligating such fractions to suitable cloning vectors (e.g., pEcoR251, deposited at the Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellculturen ("DSM"), Braunschweig, Federal Republic of Germany, under accession number no. 4711 on July 13, 1988); transforming E.coli with the cloning vectors; and screening the clones with a suitable DNA probe. The DNA probe can be constructed from a highly conserved region which is commonly present in different B. thuringiensis genes which encode crystal protoxins against Coleoptera or Lepidoptera, such as on the basis of an N-terminal amino acid sequence determined by gas-phase sequencing of the purified proteins (EPA 88402115.5).

Alternatively, the desired fragments, prepared from total DNA of the respective strains, can be ligated in suitable expression vectors (e.g., a pUC vector (Yanisch-Perron et al., 1985) with the insert under the control of the lac promoter) and transformed in E. coli, and the clones can then be screened by conventional colony immunoprobng methods (French et al., 1986) for expression of the toxins with monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies raised against the toxins produced by the strains.

The isolated B. thuringiensis ICP genes can then be sequenced in a conventional manner using well-known procedures (e.g., Maxam and Gilbert, 1980).

At present, several ICP genes have been cloned from different subspecies of B. thuringiensis (Table 2). The nucleotide sequences from several of these B.

thuringiensis ICP genes have been reported. Whereas several sequences are identical or nearly identical and represent the same gene or slight variants of the same gene, several sequences display substantial heterogeneity and show the existence of different B. thuringiensis ICP gene classes. Several lines of evidence suggest that all these genes specify a family of related insecticidal proteins. Analysis of the distribution of B. thuringiensis ICPs in different B. thuringiensis strains by determining the protein composition of their crystals, by immunodetection using polyclonal antisera or monoclonals against purified crystals, or by using gene-specific probes, shows that subspecies of B. thuringiensis might contain up to three related B. thuringiensis ICP genes belonging to different classes (Kronstad et al., 1983).

To express the isolated and characterized gene in a heterologous host for purification and characterization of the recombinant protein, the preferred organism is Escherichia coli. A number of expression vectors for enhanced expression of heterologous genes in E. coli have been described (e.g., Remaut et al., 1981). Usually the gene is cloned under control of a strong regulatable promoter, such as the lambda pL or pR promoters (e.g., Botterman and Zabeau, 1987), the lac promoter (e.g., Fuller, 1982) or the tac promoter (e.g., De Boer et al., 1983), and provided with suitable translation initiation sites (e.g., Stanssens et al., 1985 and 1987). Gene cassettes of the B. thuringiensis ICP genes can be generated by site-directed mutagenesis, for example according to the procedure described by Stanssens et al. (1985 and 1987). This allows cassettes to be made comprising, for example, a truncated ICP gene fragment encoding the toxic core (i.e., toxin) of an ICP or a hybrid gene

encoding the toxic core and a selectable marker according to the procedures described in EPA 88402241.9.

The cells of an E. coli culture, which has been induced to produce a recombinant ICP, are harvested. The method used to induce the cells to produce the recombinant ICP depends on the choice of the promoter. For example, the lac promoter (Fuller, 1982) is induced by isopropyl-B-D-thiogalacto-pyranoside ("IPTG"); the pL promoter is induced by temperature shock (Bernard et al., 1979). The recombinant ICP is usually deposited in the cells as insoluble inclusions (Hsuing and Becker, 1988). The cells are lysed to liberate the inclusions. The bulk of E. coli proteins is removed in subsequent washing steps. A semi-purified protoxin pellet is obtained, from which the protoxin can be dissolved in alkaline buffer (e.g., Na_2CO_3 , pH 10). The procedure for the ICP Bt2, which is also applicable to other recombinant toxins, has been described by Höfte et al., 1986.

In accordance with this invention, the binding of various ICPs to ICP receptors on the brush border membrane of the columnar midgut epithelial cells of various insect species has been investigated. The brush border membrane is the primary target of each ICP, and membrane vesicles, preferentially derived from the brush border membrane, can be obtained according to Wolfersberger et al., 1987.

The binding to ICP receptors of one or more ICPs (e.g., ICP A, ICP B, etc.) can be characterized by the following steps (Hofmann et al, 1988b):

1. ICP A is labelled with a suitable marker (usually a radioisotope such as ^{125}I).
2. Brush border membranes are incubated with a small amount (preferably less than 10^{-10} M) of labelled

ICP A together with different concentrations of non-labelled ICP A (preferably from less than 10^{-11} to 10^{-5} M).

3. For all concentrations tested the amount of labelled ICP A bound to the brush border membranes is measured.
4. Mathematical analysis of these data allows one to calculate various characteristics of the ICP receptor such as the magnitude of the population of binding sites (Scatchard, 1949).
5. Competition by other toxins (e.g. ICP B) is preferably studied by incubating the same amount of labelled ICP A with brush border membranes in combination with different amounts of ICP B (preferentially from 10^{-11} to 10^{-6} M; and subsequently, steps 3 and 4 are repeated.

By this procedure, it has been found, for example, that Bt3 toxin, Bt2 toxin and Bt73 toxin are competitively binding anti-Lepidopteran ICPs for Manduca sexta and Heliothis virescens (See example 6 which follows). Various other combinations of toxins have been found to be non-competitively binding anti-Lepidopteran or anti-Coleopteran toxins (example 6).

Although the concept of competitiveness versus non-competitiveness of ICP binding does not have any practical importance by itself, the observation of the non-competitiveness of two B. thuringiensis ICPs, active against the same target insect, can be put to very significant practical use. This is because a combination of two non-competitively binding B. thuringiensis ICPs can be used to prevent development, by a target insect, of resistance against such B. thuringiensis ICPs.

A selection experiment with M. sexta, using Bt2 toxin, Bt18 toxin, and a mixture of Bt2 and Bt18

toxins, has shown that Bt2 and Bt18 are two non-competitively binding anti-Lepidopteran toxins. After 20 generations of selection, a very pronounced reduction in ICP sensitivity was observed in the selection experiments with Bt2 or Bt18 alone (>100 times). The reduction in sensitivity in the selection experiment with a Bt2-Bt18 mixture was only marginal (3 times). This demonstrates the unexpected practical advantage of a simultaneous use of two non-competitively binding ICPs in a situation which models the high selection pressure which will exist with the use of transgenic plants transformed with ICP genes. In this regard, the two resistant strains showed a specific loss in receptor sites for either the Bt2 or Bt18 toxin. In each case, receptor sites for the toxin, which was not used for selection, were not affected or their concentration even increased. Thus, the Bt2 selected strain retained its Bt18 receptors, and the Bt18 selected strain developed an increased number of Bt2 receptors. Indeed, the Bt18 selected strain showed an increased sensitivity for Bt2 along with its increased Bt2 receptor concentration. No significant changes in receptor sites were found in the strain selected against the combined toxins. These findings are described in detail in Example 7 which follows.

A similar mechanism of resistance to Bt has been observed with respect to a strain of diamondback moth, Plutella xylostella. This strain had developed resistance in the field to Dipel which is a commercial formulation of the Bt HD-1 strain. Crystals of Dipel comprise a mixture of several BtICPs, similar to the Bt2, Bt3 and Bt73 proteins which are competitively-binding ICPs. As shown by both insect bioassays and competitive binding studies using Bt2 and Bt15, the Dipel-resistant diamondback moth strain is resistant to

Bt2 protoxin and toxin but maintains full sensitivity to Bt15 protoxin and toxin. This finding is relevant to other combinations of non-competitively binding anti-Lepidopteran or Coleopteran ICPs which are expected to have the same beneficial effect against their common target insects.

Hence, a combination of non-competitively binding ICPs, when directly expressed in a transgenic plant, offers the substantial advantage of reducing the chances of development of insect resistance against the ICPs expressed in the plant. There may be additional benefits because the combined spectrum of two toxins may be broader than the spectrum of a single ICP expressed in a plant (See Examples 8, 9 and 10 which follow).

If, among two competitively binding ICPs, one has a larger binding site population than the other against a given target insect, it will be most advantageous to use the one with the larger population of binding sites to control the target pest in combination with the most suitable non-competitively binding B. thuringiensis ICP. For example, as seen from Example 6, it is preferred to use Bt73 against Heliothis virescens, rather than Bt2 or Bt3, and it is preferred to use Bt3 against Manduca sexta rather than Bt2 or Bt73. The selected gene can then be combined with the best suitable non-competitively binding ICP.

Previously, plant transformations involved the introduction of a marker gene together with a single ICP gene, within the same plasmid, in the plant genome (e.g., Vaeck et al., 1987; Fischhoff et al., 1987). Such chimeric ICP genes usually comprised either all or part of an ICP gene, preferably a truncated ICP gene fragment encoding the toxic core, fused to a selectable marker gene, such as the neo gene coding for neomycin

phosphotransferase. The chimeric ICP gene was placed between the T-DNA border repeats for Agrobacterium Ti-plasmid mediated transformation (EP 0193259).

This invention involves the combined expression of two or even more B. thuringiensis ICP genes in transgenic plants. The insecticidally effective B. thuringiensis ICP genes, encoding two non-competitively binding ICPs for a target insect species, preferably encoding the respective truncated ICP genes, are inserted in a plant cell genome, preferably in its nuclear genome, so that the inserted genes are downstream of, and under the control of, a promoter which can direct the expression of the genes in the plant cell. This is preferably accomplished by inserting, in the plant cell genome, one or more chimaeric genes, each containing in the same transcriptional unit: at least one ICP gene; preferably a marker gene; and optionally a DNA sequence encoding a protease (e.g., trypsin)-sensitive or -cleavable protein part intercalated in frame between any two ICP genes in the chimaeric gene. Each chimaeric gene also contains at least one promoter which can direct expression of its ICP gene in the plant cell.

The selection of suitable promoters for the chimaeric genes of this invention is not critical. Preferred promoters for such chimaeric genes include: the strong constitutive 35S promoter obtained from the cauliflower mosaic virus, isolates CM 1841 (Gardner et al., 1981), CabbB-S (Franck et al., 1980) and CabbB-JI (Hull and Howell, 1987); the promoter of the nopaline synthetase gene ("PNOS") of the Ti-plasmid (Herrera-Estrella, 1983); the promoter of the octopine synthase gene ("POCS" [De Greve et al., 1982]); and the wound-inducible TR1' promoter and the TR2' promoter which drive the expression of the 1' and 2' genes,

respectively, of the T-DNA (Velten et al., 1984). Alternatively, a promoter can be utilized which is specific for one or more tissues or organs of the plant, whereby the inserted genes are expressed only in cells of the specific tissue(s) or organ(s). Examples of such promoters are a stem-specific promoter such as the AdoMet-synthetase promoter (Peleman et al., 1989), a tuber-specific promoter (Rocha-Sosa et al., 1989), and a seed-specific promoter such as the 2S promoter (Krebbers et al., 1988). The ICP genes could also be selectively expressed in the leaves of a plant (e.g., potato) by placing the genes under the control of a light-inducible promoter such as the promoter of the ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase small subunit gene of the plant itself or of another plant such as pea as disclosed in EP 0193259. Another alternative is to use a promoter whose expression is inducible (e.g., by temperature or chemical factors).

A 3' non-translated DNA sequence, which functions in plant cells for 3' end formation and the polyadenylation of the 3' end of the mRNA sequence encoded by the at least one ICP gene in the plant cell, also forms part of each such chimeric gene. The selection of a suitable 3' non-translated DNA sequence is not critical. Examples are the 3' untranslated end of the octopine synthase gene, the nopaline synthase gene or the T-DNA gene 7 (Velten and Schell, 1985).

The selection of marker genes for the chimaeric genes of this invention also is not critical, and any conventional DNA sequence can be used which encodes a protein or polypeptide which renders plant cells, expressing the DNA sequence, readily distinguishable from plant cells not expressing the DNA sequence (EP 0344029). The marker gene can be under the control of its own promoter and have its own 3' non-translated DNA

sequence as disclosed above, provided the marker gene is in the same genetic locus as the ICP gene(s) which it identifies. The marker gene can be, for example: a herbicide resistance gene such as the sfr or sfrv genes (EPA 87400141); a gene encoding a modified target enzyme for a herbicide having a lower affinity for the herbicide than the natural (non-modified) target enzyme, such as a modified 5-EPSP as a target for glyphosate (U.S. patent 4,535,060; EP 0218571) or a modified glutamine synthetase as a target for a glutamine synthetase inhibitor (EP 0240972); or an antibiotic resistance gene, such as a neo gene (PCT publication WO 84/02913; EP 0193259).

Using A. tumefaciens Ti vector-mediated plant transformation methodology, all chimeric genes of this invention can be inserted into plant cell genomes after the chimaeric genes have been placed between the T-DNA border repeats of suitable disarmed Ti-plasmid vectors (Deblaere et al., 1988). This transformation can be carried out in a conventional manner, for example as described in EP 0116718, PCT publication WO 84/02913 and EPA 87400544.0. The chimeric genes can also be in non-specific plasmid vectors which can be used for direct gene transfer (e.g., as described by Pazkowski et al., 1984; De La Pena et al., 1986). Different conventional procedures can be followed to obtain a combined expression of two B.thuringiensis ICP genes in transgenic plants as summarized below.

I Chimeric gene constructs whereby two or more ICP genes and a marker gene are transferred to the plant genome as a single piece of DNA and lead to the insertion in a single locus in the genome

Ia The genes can be engineered in different transcriptional units each under control of a distinct promoter

To express two or more ICP genes and a marker gene as separate transcriptional units, several promoter fragments directing expression in plant cells can be used as described above. All combinations of the promoters mentioned above in the chimaeric constructs for one ICP gene are possible. Examples of such individual chimeric constructs are described for the bt2 gene in EP 0193259, for the bt13 gene in EPA 88402115.5 and for the bt18 gene in EPA 88402241.9. The ICP gene in each chimeric gene of this invention can be the intact ICP gene or preferably an insecticidally-effective part of the intact ICP gene, especially a truncated gene fragment encoding the toxic core of the ICP. The individual chimeric genes are cloned in the same plasmid vector according to standard procedures (e.g., EP 0193259).

Ib Two genes (e.g., either an ICP and a marker gene or two ICP genes) or more can be combined in the same transcriptional unit

To express two or more ICP genes in the same transcriptional unit, the following cases can be distinguished:

In a first case, hybrid genes in which the coding region of one gene is in frame fused with the coding region of another gene can be placed under the control of a single promoter. Fusions can be made between either an ICP and a marker gene or between two ICP genes. An example of an ICP gene-marker gene fusion has been described in EP 0193259 (i.e., a hybrid truncated bt2-neo gene encoding a Bt2 toxin-NPTII fusion protein).

Another possibility is the fusion of two ICP genes. Between each gene encoding an ICP which still is insecticidally active (i.e., a toxic part of the protoxin), a gene fragment encoding a protease (e.g.,

trypsin) - sensitive protein part should be included, such as a gene fragment encoding a part of the N-terminal or C-terminal amino acid sequence of one of the ICPs which is removed or cleaved upon activation by the midgut enzymes of the target insect species.

In a second case, the coding regions of the two respective ICP genes can be combined in dicistronic units placed under the control of a promoter. The coding regions of the two ICP genes are placed after each other with an intergenic sequence of defined length. A single messenger RNA molecule is generated, leading to the translation into two separate gene products. Based on a modified scanning model (Kozak, 1987), the concept of reinitiation of translation has been accepted provided that a termination codon in frame with the upstream ATG precedes the downstream ATG. Experimental data also demonstrated that the plant translational machinery is able to synthesize several polypeptides from a polycistronic mRNA (Angenon et al., 1989).

II Chimeric constructs with one or more ICP genes that are transferred to the genome of a plant already transformed with a one or more ICP genes

Several genes can be introduced into a plant cell during sequential transformation steps (retransformation), provided that an alternative system to select transformants is available for the second round of transformation. This retransformation leads to the combined expression of ICP genes which are introduced at multiple loci in the genome. Preferably, two different selectable marker genes are used in the two consecutive transformation steps. The first marker is used for selection of transformed cells in the first transformation, while the second marker is used for selection of transformants in the second round of

transformation. Sequential transformation steps using kanamycin and hygromycin have been described, for example by Sandler et al. (1988) and Delauney et al. (1988).

III Chimeric constructs with one or more ICP genes, that are separately transferred to the nuclear genome of separate plants in independent transformation events and are subsequently combined in a single plant genome through crosses.

The first plant should be a plant transformed with a first ICP gene or an F1 plant derived herefrom through selfing (preferably an F1 plant which is homozygous for the ICP gene). The second plant should be a plant transformed with a second ICP gene or an F1 plant derived herefrom through selfing (preferably an F1 plant which is homozygous for the second ICP gene). Selection methods can be applied to the plants obtained from this cross in order to select those plants having the two ICP genes present in their genome (e.g., Southern blotting) and expressing the two ICPs (e.g., separate ELISA detection of the immunologically different ICPs). This is a useful strategy to produce hybrid varieties from two parental lines, each transformed with a different ICP gene, as well as to produce inbred lines containing two different ICP genes through crossing of two independent transformants (or their F1 selfed offspring) from the same inbred line.

IV Chimeric constructs with one or more ICP genes separately transferred to the genome of a single plant in the same transformation experiment leading to the insertion of the respective chimeric genes at multiple loci.

Cotransformation involves the simultaneous transformation of a plant with two different expression vectors, one containing a first ICP gene, the second

containing a second ICP gene. Along with each ICP gene, a different marker gene can be used, and selection can be made with the two markers simultaneously. Alternatively, a single marker can be used, and a sufficiently large number of selected plants can be screened in order to find those plants having the two ICP genes (e.g., by Southern blotting) and expressing the two proteins (e.g., by means of ELISA). Cotransformation with more than one T-DNA can be accomplished by using simultaneously two different strains of Agrobacterium, each with a different Ti-plasmid (Depicker et al., 1985) or with one strain of Agrobacterium containing two T-DNAs on separate plasmids (de Framond et al., 1986). Direct gene transfer, using a mixture of two plasmids, can also be employed to cotransform plant cells with a selectable and a non-selectable gene (Schocher et al., 1986).

The transgenic plant obtained can be used in further plant breeding schemes. The transformed plant can be selfed to obtain a plant which is homozygous for the inserted genes. If the plant is an inbred line, this homozygous plant can be used to produce seeds directly or as a parental line for a hybrid variety. The gene can also be crossed into open pollinated populations or other inbred lines of the same plant using conventional plant breeding approaches.

Of course other plant transformation methods can be used and are within the scope of the invention as long as they result in a plant which expresses two or more non-competitively binding ICPs. In this regard, this invention is not limited to the use of Agrobacterium Ti-plasmids for transforming plant cells with genes encoding non-competitively binding ICPs. Other known methods for plant cell transformations, such as electroporation or by the use of a vector

system based on plant viruses or pollen, can be used for transforming monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants in order to obtain plants which express two non-competitively binding ICPs. Furthermore, DNA sequences encoding two non-competitively binding ICPs other than those disclosed herein can be used for transforming plants. Also, each of the ICP genes, described herein, can be encoded by equivalent DNA sequences, taking into consideration the degeneracy of the genetic code. Also, equivalent ICPs with only a few amino acids changed, such as would be obtained through mutations in the ICP gene, can also be used, provided they encode a protein with essentially the same characteristics (e.g., insecticidal activity and receptor binding).

The following Examples illustrate the invention. Those skilled in the art will, however, recognize that other combinations of two or more non-competitively binding B. thuringiensis ICP genes can be used to transform plants in accordance with this invention in order to prevent the development, in a target insect, of resistance to B. thuringiensis ICPs expressed in the transformed plants. Unless otherwise indicated, all procedures for making and manipulating DNA were carried out by the standardized procedures described in Maniatis et al, Molecular Cloning - A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (1982).

EXAMPLE 1: Collection of genes

The collection of anti-Lepidopteran and anti-Coleopteran Bt genes encoding ICPs, which are the subject of the Examples, is described in Table 2 (following the Examples). References for the respective genes are indicated in Table 2. The origin, the isolation and characterization of the Bt genes, which have not been published, are described below. Bt

strains, such as strains HD-1, HD-68, HD-110, and HD-73, are publicly available from the Agricultural Research Culture Collection, Northern Regional Research Laboratory, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Peoria, Illinois 61604, U.S.A.

bt3

gene: From B. thuringiensis var. kurstaki HD-1, the ICP was cloned. Characterization of this gene revealed an open reading frame of 3528 bp which encodes a protoxin of 133 kDa. This gene was identical to the one described by Schnepf et al. (1985).

bt73

gene: From B. thuringiensis var HD-73. The ICP gene was cloned as described by Adang et al. (1985).

bt4

gene: A genomic library was prepared from total DNA of strain B. thuringiensis aizawai HD-68. Using the 1.1 kb internal HindIII fragment of the bt2 gene as a probe, a gene designated bt4 was isolated. Characterization of this gene revealed an open reading frame of 3495 bp which encodes a protoxin of 132 kDa and a trypsin activated toxin fragment of 60 kDa. This (insect controlling protein) gene differs from previously identified genes and was also found in several other strains of subspecies aizawai and entomocidus including HD-110. Fig. 13 shows the nucleotide sequence and deduced amino acid sequence of the open reading frame ("ORF") of the bt4 gene extending from nucleotide 264 to nucleotide 3761.

bt14 and bt15

genes: A genomic library was prepared from total DNA of strain B. thuringiensis var. entomocidus HD-110 by partial Sau3A digest of the total DNA and cloning in the vector pEcoR251 (deposited at DSM under

accession number 4711). Using monoclonal antibodies (Höfte et al., 1988), at least three structurally distinct ICPs were identified in crystals of B. thuringiensis entomocidus HD-110. These monoclonal antibodies were used to clone the three different ICP genes from this B. thuringiensis strain. One of these genes is the bt4 gene as described above.

The second gene was called "bt15". Fig. 14 shows the nucleotide sequence and deduced amino acid sequence of the ORF of the bt15 gene, isolated from HD-110, extending from nucleotide 234 to nucleotide 3803. The Shine and Dalgarno sequence, preceding the initiation codon is underlined. This gene has an open reading frame of 3567 bp which encodes a protoxin of 135 kDa and a 63 kDa toxin fragment. A similar gene has been described by Honee et al. 1988, isolated from B. thuringiensis entomocidus 60.5. The bt15 gene differs from the published sequence at three positions: an Ala codon (GCA) is present instead of an Arg codon (CGA) at position 925 and a consecution of a Thr-His codon (ACGCAT) is present instead of a Thr-Asp codon (ACCGAT) at position 1400. (The numbers of the positions are according to Honnee et al., 1988). Another similar gene has been described in EP 0295156, isolated from B. thuringiensis aizawai 7-29 and entomocidus 6-01. The bt15 gene is different from this published nucleotide sequence at three different places : 1) a Glu codon (GAA) instead of an Ala codon (GCA) at position 700; 2) the sequence TGG, CCA, GCG, CCA instead of TGC, CAG, CGC, CAC, CAT at position 1456 and 3) an Arg codon (CGT) instead of an Ala codon (GCG) at

position 2654. (The numbers of the positions are according to EP 0295156).

The third gene isolated was called "bt14". It has an open reading frame of 3621 bp which encodes a 137 kDa protoxin and a 66 kDa activated toxin fragment. A similar gene has been cloned from B.thuringiensis HD-2 (Brizzard and Whiteley, 1988). The bt14 gene differs from the published nucleotide sequence by two nucleotide substitutions: a T instead of a C at position 126, and a C instead of a T at position 448 (the numbers of the positions are according to Brizzard and Whiteley, 1988). In the first case, the Ile codon (ATT or ATC) is conserved whereas in the second case the Tyr codon (TAT) is converted to a His codon (CAC).

bt2

gene: The bt2 gene was cloned as described in EP 0193259.

bt18

gene: Cloning of the bt18 gene was performed as described in EPA 88402241.9.

bt13

gene: The bt13 gene was cloned as described in EPA 88402115.5.

bt21 and bt22

genes: These genes, encoding Coleopteran-active ICPs, were cloned as described in EPA 89400428.2.

EXAMPLE 2 : Construction of gene cassettes and expression of Bt genes in E.coli

- 1) bt2, bt18: the construction of bt2 and bt18 gene cassettes has been previously described in EPA 86300291.1 and 88402241.9, respectively. Basically, they comprise a truncated gene encoding the toxic core and a hybrid gene comprising the

truncated gene fused in frame to the N-terminus of the neo gene. The gene cassettes are used to transform E. coli to express the Bt2 and Bt18 ICP toxins.

- 2) bt14, bt15: as described in EPA 88402241.9, gene cassettes for the bt14 and bt15 genes were constructed in order to express the genes in E.coli and in plants.

First, a NcoI site was introduced at the N-terminus of the genes by site-directed mutagenesis.

In the case of the bt15 gene, the conversion of the TT nucleotides, immediately in front of the ATG codon, into CC yielded a NcoI site overlapping with the ATG initiation codon. This site was introduced using the pMa/c vectors for site-directed mutagenesis (Stanssens et al., 1987) and a 28-mer oligonucleotide with the following sequence:

5'-CGGAGGTATTCCATGGAGGAAAATAATC-3'.

This yielded the plasmid pVE29 carrying the N-terminal fragment of the bt15 gene with a NcoI site at the ATG initiation codon.

According to Brizzard and Whiteley (1988), the initiation codon of the bt14 gene is a TTG codon. Thus, a NcoI site was created in a like manner at this codon for site directed mutagenesis using a 34-mer oligonucleotide with the following sequence :

5'-CCTATTTGAAGCCATGGTAACTCCTCTTTTATG-3'.

In this case the sequence of the intitiation codon was converted from ATATTGA to ACCATGG. This yielded the plasmid pHW44 carrying the N-terminal fragment of the bt14 gene with a NcoI site at the initiation codon.

In a second step, the genes were reconstructed by ligating the N-terminal gene fragments with a suitable C-terminal gene fragment, yielding a bt15 gene and bt14 gene with a NcoI site at the ATG initiation codon.

To express the bt14 and bt15 genes encoding the protoxin in E. coli, the following constructs were made: pOH50 containing the bt15 gene under the control of the lac promoter; and pHW67 containing the bt14 gene under the control of the tac promoter. Induction of a culture of the E. coli strain WK6 carrying the respective plasmids with IPTG yielded an overproduced protein (Fuller, 1982).

The active toxic fragments of the Bt15 and Bt14 protoxins comprise 63 and 60 kDa trypsin digest products respectively. Instead of expressing the whole bt15 or bt14 gene, it is also possible to express a toxin-encoding gene fragment or derivative thereof in plants. To this end, truncated bt14 and bt15 gene fragments were constructed. In order to be able to select transgenic plants producing the ICP gene products, hybrid genes of the truncated gene fragments were also made with the neo gene encoding a selectable marker as described in EP 0193259.

By comparison of the nucleotide sequence of the bt4, bt14 and bt15 genes, respectively, with the bt2 and bt18 genes, respectively, the BclI site could be identified as a suitable site localized downstream of the coding sequence encoding the toxin gene fragment. To construct a truncated gene fragment and a hybrid gene of the truncated gene fragment with the neo gene, the filled BclI site was ligated to the filled EcoRI site of pLKM91 (Höfte et al., 1986) and the filled HindIII site of pLK94 respectively (Botterman and Zabeau, 1987). pLKM91 carries a 5' truncated neo gene fragment which codes for an enzymatically active C-terminal gene fragment of the neo gene, and pLK94 contains translation stop codons in three reading frames. This yielded the following plasmids which are then used to transform E. coli to express the ICP

genes: pHW71 carrying a truncated bt14-neo hybrid gene; pHW72 carrying a truncated bt14 gene; pVE34 carrying a truncated bt15-neo hybrid gene; and pVE35 carrying a truncated bt15 gene.

In a similar way as described for the bt14 and bt15 genes, gene cassettes are constructed for the bt3 and bt4 genes which are then expressed in E.coli.

EXAMPLE 3: Purification of recombinant ICPs

The ICPs expressed in E. coli in Example 2 are purified by the method (described for recombinant Bt2 protoxin) by Höfte et al. (1986).

EXAMPLE 4: Purification of toxins

Solubilized protoxins of Bt2, Bt3, Bt73, Bt4, Bt14, Bt15, Bt18, Bt13, Bt21 and Bt22 (in Na_2CO_3 50mM, DTT 10 mM pH=10) are dialyzed against 0.5 % $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$ at pH 8 and treated with trypsin (trypsin/protoxin=1/20 w/w) for 2h at 37°C. The activated toxin is chromatographically purified (Mono-Q column on FPLC) as described by Hofmann et al. (1988b).

EXAMPLE 5: Determination of the insecticidal spectrum

The ICP protoxins and toxins of Examples 3 and 4 are evaluated for their insecticidal activity. Each protoxin is dissolved in alkaline buffer containing a reducing agent (Na_2CO_3 50 mM, DTT 10 mM pH=10), and each toxin is used as soluble protein directly from FPLC. Protein concentrations are determined. Subsequently, dilutions of the resulting protoxin or toxin solution are prepared in PBS buffer pH=7.4 containing 0.15 M NaCl and 0.1 % bovine serum albumin ("BSA").

The artificial medium for insect culture, described by Bell and Joachim (1976) for Manduca sexta, is poured in appropriate receptacles and allowed to solidify. Subsequently a quantity of the (pro)toxin dilutions is applied on this medium, and the water is

allowed to evaporate under a laminar flow. This results in a medium with a certain quantity (in the range of 0.1 to 10000 ng/cm²) of toxin coated on its surface. For example, for the Bt2 toxin, typical dilutions for a toxicity test on Manduca sexta are 1, 5, 25, 125 and 625 ng/cm². First instar larvae of Manduca sexta are then applied on the coated medium, and growth and mortality are assessed after 6 days. Mortality increases with dosage. Dose response data is analysed in probit analysis (Finney, 1962), and the data are best summarized by an LD₅₀ value which is the amount of toxin which kills 50 % of the insects. The LD₅₀ for Bt2 toxin against Manduca sexta is around 20 ng/cm².

Similar assays are carried out for other insect species using a suitable diet or by applying the ICPs on leaves for insects, for which no artificial diet is used.

EXAMPLE 6: Binding studies

Toxins

All protoxins and their toxic fragments were purified according to the methods described for the Bt2 protoxin and toxin in Höfte et al. (1986) and EP 0193259. The activated and purified toxins are further referred to as the Bt2, Bt3, Bt73, Bt4, Bt14, Bt15, Bt18, Bt13, Bt21 and Bt22 toxins.

By way of example for the Bt73 toxin, it has been shown that B. thuringiensis var. kurstaki HD73 produces a protein of 133 kDa encoded by a 6.6 kb type gene. A culture of this strain was grown as described by Mahillon and Delcour (1984). The autolysed culture was spun down (20 minutes at 4500 rpm in a HB4 rotor) and washed with a buffer containing 20 mM Tris, 100 mM NaCl and 0.05 % Triton X-100, pH 8. The final pellet was resuspended in this buffer (4 ml buffer for 100 ml culture). This solution was then layered onto a linear

Urograffin gradient (60-70%) which was centrifuged in a SW 28 rotor for 90 minutes at 18000 rpm. Crystals were collected and stored at -20° C until further use. Activation was performed according to Höfte et al. (1986). The purified toxin is further referred to as the Bt73 toxin.

Iodination of ICPs

Iodination of Bt2, Bt3, and Bt73 toxins was performed using the Chloramin-T method (Hunter and Greenwood, 1962). 1 mCi ^{125}I -NaI and 20 to 37.5 ug Chloramin-T in NaCl/P_i were added to 50 ug of purified toxin. After gentle shaking for 60 seconds, the reaction was stopped by adding 53 ug of potassium metabisulfite in H₂O. The whole mixture was loaded on a PD 10 Sephadex G-25M gelfiltration column to remove free iodine. A subsequent run on a Biogel P-60 column was carried out in order to increase the purity.

Alternatively, toxins were labeled using the Iodogen method. Iodogen (Pierce) was dissolved in chloroform at 0.1 mg/ml. 100 ul of this solution was pipetted into a disposable glass vessel and dried under a stream of nitrogen gas. The vessel was rinsed with Tris buffer (20 mM Tris, pH 8.65 with 0.15 M NaCl). 50 ug of toxin (in Tris buffer) was incubated with 1 mCi of ^{125}I -NaI in the tube for 10 minutes. The reaction was then stopped by the addition of 1 M NaI (one fourth of the sample volume). The sample was immediately loaded onto a PD10 Sephadex G-25M column and later on a Biogel P-60 column to remove free iodine and possible degradation products.

Other toxins were iodinated using one of the above mentioned procedures.

Determination of specific activity of iodinated toxin

Specific activity of iodinated Bt2, Bt3, and Bt73 toxin samples was determined using a "sandwich" ELISA

technique according to Voller, Bidwell and Barlett (1976). Primary antibody was a polyclonal antiserum raised against Bt2 toxin, and the secondary antibody was a monoclonal antibody 4D6.

The conjugate used was alkaline phosphatase coupled to anti-mouse IgG. The reaction intensity of a standard dilution series of unlabeled toxin and dilutions of the iodinated toxin sample (in NaCl/P_i - 0.1 % BSA) was measured. Linear regression calculations yielded the protein content of the radioactive toxin sample. The samples with the highest specific activities were used in the binding assays. Specific activities were 59400, 33000 and 19800 Ci/mole (on reference date) for Bt73 toxin (labeled according to Iodogen procedure), Bt2 toxin (Chloramin-T method) and Bt3 toxin (Iodogen method) respectively.

Specific activities of other toxins were determined using a similar approach. Specific monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies for each of these toxins were raised and applied in ELISA.

Preparation of brush border membrane vesicles

Brush border membrane vesicles ("BBMV") from Manduca sexta, Heliothis virescens, Plutella xylostella, Phthorimaea operculella, Spodoptera exigua, Spodoptera littoralis, Plodia interpunctella, Mamestra brassicae, Pieris brassicae and Leptinotarsa decemlineata were prepared according to the method of Wolfersberger et al. (1987). This is a differential centrifugation method that makes use of the higher density of negative electrostatic charges on luminal than on basolateral membranes to separate these fractions.

Binding assay

Duplicate samples of ¹²⁵I-labeled toxin, either alone or in combination with varying amounts of

unlabeled toxin, were incubated at the appropriate temperature with brush border membrane vesicles in a total volume of 100 μ l of Tris buffer (Tris 10 mM, 150 mM NaCl, pH 7.4). All buffers contained 0.1 % BSA. The incubation temperature was 20 $^{\circ}$ C. Ultrafiltration through Whatman GF/F glass fiber filters was used to separate bound from free toxin. Each filter was rapidly washed with 5 ml of ice-cold buffer (NaCl/P_i- 0.1 % BSA). The radioactivity of the filter was measured in a gammacounter (1275 Minigamma, LKB). Binding data were analyzed using the LIGAND computer program. This program calculates the bound concentration of ligand as a function of the total concentration of ligand, given the affinity (K_a or its inverse $K_d = 1/K_a$, the dissociation constant) and the total concentration of receptors or binding site concentration (R_t).

Determination of protein concentration

Protein concentrations of purified Bt2, Bt3, Bt73 and Bt15 toxins were calculated from the OD at 280 nm (measured with a Uvikon 810 P, Kontron Instruments spectrophotometer). The protein content of solutions of other toxins and of brush border membrane vesicles (BBMV) as measured according to Bradford (1976).

Binding of Bt2, Bt3 and Bt73 toxins to BBMV of *Manduca sexta* and *Heliothis virescens*: an example of 3 competitively binding Lepidopteran ICPs.

Bt2, Bt3 and Bt73 toxins are toxic to both *Manduca sexta* and *Heliothis virescens*: LC50 values for *Manduca sexta* are respectively 17.70, 20.20 and 9.00 ng/cm² ; for *Heliothis virescens* the LC50's are 7.16, 90.00 and 1.60 ng/cm².

Labelled toxin, either Bt3 (0.8 nM) or Bt2 (1.05 nM) or Bt73 (1.05 nM), was incubated with BBMV in a volume of 0.1 ml. BBMV protein concentrations were 100 μ g/ml for *M. sexta* and for Bt2-*H. virescens*, for Bt3-*H.*

virescens 150 and for Bt73-H. virescens 50 ug/ml. The labelled toxin was combined with varying amounts of an unlabeled toxin (competitor). After a 30 min. incubation, bound and free toxins were separated through filtration.

Figs. 1-3 show the percentages binding of respectively labelled Bt2, Bt3 and Bt73 toxins as a function of the concentration of competitor for Manduca sexta. Figs. 4-6 show these data for Heliothis virescens. The amount bound in the absence of competitor is always taken as 100 % binding. Figs. 1-6 show the binding of ^{125}I -labeled toxins to M. sexta (in Figs. 1, 2 and 3) and H. virescens (in Figs. 4, 5 and 6) brush border membrane vesicles. Vesicles were incubated with labeled toxin [in Figs. 1 and 4: ^{125}I -Bt2-toxin (1.05nM); in Figs. 2 and 5: ^{125}I -Bt3-toxin (0.8nM); in Figs. 3 and 6: ^{125}I -Bt73-toxin (1.05nM)] in the presence of increasing concentrations of Bt2 toxin (*), Bt3 toxin (●) or Bt73 toxin (▲). Binding is expressed as percentage of the amount bound upon incubation with labeled toxin alone. On M. sexta vesicles, these amounts were 1820, 601 and 2383 cpm, and on H. virescens vesicles 1775, 472 and 6608 cpm for ^{125}I -Bt2-, Bt3- and Bt73-toxin, respectively. Non-specific binding was not subtracted. Data were analyzed with the LIGAND computer program. Each point is the mean of a duplicate sample.

Figure 1: shows the binding of ^{125}I Bt2 toxin to M. sexta BBMV

Figure 2: shows the binding of ^{125}I Bt3 toxin to M. sexta BBMV

Figure 3: shows the binding of ^{125}I Bt73 toxin to M. sexta BBMV

Figure 4: shows the binding of ^{125}I Bt2 toxin to H. virescens BBMV

Figure 5: shows the binding of ^{125}I Bt3 toxin to H.virescens BBMV

Figure 6: shows the binding of ^{125}I Bt73 toxin to H.virescens BBMV

The conclusions from Figures 1-6 are that Bt2 and Bt3, Bt3 and Bt73, and Bt2 and Bt73 are competitively-binding ICP's both for Manduca sexta and for Heliothis virescens. Indeed Bt3 competes for the entire population of receptor sites of Bt2 in Manduca sexta (Fig.1): the % labelled Bt2 bound in the presence of 100 nM Bt3 is equal to the % Bt2 bound with 100 nM of Bt2 itself. The opposite is not true: in the presence of 100 nM Bt2 the % of labelled Bt3 is not reduced to the same level as with 100 nM of Bt3 (Fig.2).

A similar reasoning is followed to observe competitiveness of other toxin combinations : Bt3 competes for the entire population of receptor sites of Bt73 (Fig. 3) in M. sexta; the opposite is not true (Fig. 2); Bt2 and Bt73 compete for the entire population of each other's binding sites in M. sexta (Figs. 1 and 3).

In Heliothis virescens : Bt2 competes for the entire population of receptor sites of Bt3 (Fig. 5); Bt73 competes for the entire population of receptor sites of Bt3 (Fig. 5); Bt73 competes for the entire population of receptor sites of Bt2 (Fig. 4); but the opposite statements are not true (Figs. 4, 5 and 6).

The same data can be used in mathematical analysis (e.g., Scatchard analysis according to Scatchard, 1949; analysis with the LIGAND computer program according to Munson and Rodbard, 1980) to calculate the dissociation constant (K_d) of the toxin-receptor complex and the concentration of binding sites (R_t); the results of these calculations using the LIGAND computer program were the following:

Bt2- <u>M. sexta</u> :	Kd=0.4 nM	Rt=3.4 pmol/mg vesicle protein
Bt3- <u>M. sexta</u> :	Kd=1.5 nM	Rt=9.8 pmol/mg vesicle protein
Bt73- <u>M. sexta</u> :	Kd=0.6 nM	Rt=4.0 pmol/mg vesicle protein
Bt2- <u>H. virescens</u> :	Kd=0.6 nM	Rt=9.7 pmol/mg vesicle protein
Bt3- <u>H. virescens</u> :	Kd=1.2 nM	Rt=3.7 pmol/mg vesicle protein
Bt73- <u>H. virescens</u> :	Kd=0.8 nM	Rt=19.5 pmol/mg vesicle protein

These data demonstrate the high affinity receptor binding of the toxins (Kds in the range of 10^{-10} to 10^{-9} M.

Binding of Bt2 and Bt14 toxins to BBMV of *P. brassicae*, *Plutella xylostella* and *Phthorimaea operculella*: an example two non-competitively binding Lepidopteran ICPs

Bt2 and Bt14 toxins are toxic to *P. brassicae* (p.b.), *P. xylostella* (p.x.) and *P. operculella* (p.o.) as seen from the table below.

	LC ₅₀ of Toxins	
	Bt2	Bt14
P.b.	1.3	2.0
P.x.	6.7	5.4
P.o.	4.20	0.8-4.0

LC₅₀ values of solubilized purified Bt2 and Bt14 toxins for P.x. are expressed as ng protein spotted per cm² of artificial diet. LC₅₀ values for P.b. are expressed as ug² toxin per ml solution into which leaf discs, fed to first instar Pb larvae, were dipped. For P.o., LC₅₀ values are expressed in ug/ml into which potato chips were dipped prior to feeding.

Labelled Bt2 toxin (1.05 nM) or Bt14 toxin (1.4 nM) was incubated with BBMV from *P. brassicae* (100 ug

protein/ml) in a volume of 0.1 ml in combination with varying amounts of unlabelled Bt2 or Bt14. After a 30 min. incubation period at 22°C, the bound and free toxins were separated.

Figures 7 and 8 show the binding of ^{125}I -labeled toxins to P. brassicae brush border membrane vesicles. Vesicles were incubated with labeled toxin [in Fig. 7: ^{125}I -Bt2-toxin (1.05nM); in Fig. 8: ^{125}I -Bt14-toxin (1.4nM)] in the presence of increasing concentrations of Bt2 toxin (o) or Bt14 toxin (●). Binding is expressed as percentage of the amount bound upon incubation with labeled toxin alone. Non-specific binding was not subtracted. Data were analyzed with the LIGAND computer program. Each point is the mean of a duplicate sample. Figure 7 shows the binding of labelled Bt2 toxin to P. brassicae BBMVs, and Figure 8 shows the binding of labelled Bt14 toxin to P. brassicae BBMVs.

The competition data demonstrate the presence of high affinity binding sites both for Bt2 and Bt14, as well as the almost complete absence of competition of Bt14 for the Bt2 binding sites and of Bt14 for the Bt2 binding sites. This demonstrates that Bt2 and Bt14 are non-competitively binding toxins. Hence they are useful to prevent the development of Pieris brassicae resistance against B. thuringiensis ICP's expressed in Brassica sp.

Calculated Kd and Rt values were from these experiments were:

Bt2: Kd=2.8 nM, Rt=12.9 pmol/mg vesicle protein

Bt14: Kd=8.4 nM, Rt=21.4 pmol/mg vesicle protein.

Binding of Bt2 and Bt15 toxins to BBMVs of M.sexta, M.brassicae, P. xylostella and P.interpunctella : an example of two non-competitively binding Lepidopteran ICPs

Bt2 and Bt15 toxins are both toxic to M.sexta (LC50's of 20 and 111 ng/cm², respectively). They also show activity against M. brassicae, P. xylostella and P. interpunctella.

Labelled Bt2 (1.05 nM) or Bt15 (0.7 nM) was incubated with BBMV from M.sexta (100 ug protein/ ml) in a volume of 0.1 ml in combination with varying amounts of unlabelled Bt2 or Bt15. After a 30 min. incubation period at 22°C, the bound and free toxins were separated.

Figs. 9-10 show the binding of ¹²⁵I-labeled toxins to M. sexta brush border membrane vesicles. Vesicles were incubated with labeled toxin [in Fig. 9: ¹²⁵I-Bt2-toxin (1.05nM); in Fig. 10: ¹²⁵I-Bt15-toxin (0.7nM)] in the presence of increasing concentrations of Bt2-toxin (o) or Bt15-toxin (●). Binding is expressed as percentage of the amount bound upon incubation with labeled toxin alone. Non-specific binding was not subtracted. Data were analyzed with the LIGAND computer program. Each point is the mean of a duplicate sample. Figure 9 shows the data for binding of labelled Bt2, and Figure 10 shows the binding of labelled Bt15.

The competition data demonstrate the presence of high affinity binding sites for both Bt2 and Bt15, as well as the complete absence of competition of Bt15 for the Bt2 binding sites and of Bt2 for the Bt15 binding sites. This demonstrates that Bt2 and Bt15 are non-competitively binding toxins. Hence the combination of Bt2 and Bt15 is useful to prevent the development of resistance of M.sexta against B. thuringiensis ICP's expressed in tobacco or other crops in which Manduca sp. are a pest. Calculated K_d and R_t values are:
Bt2: K_d=0.4 nM, R_t=3.4 pmol/mg vesicle protein

Bt15: $K_d = 0.3 \text{ nM}$ $K_{d2}=2.9 \text{ nM}$, $R_{t1}= 5.9$ and $R_{t2}=6.7$ pmol/mg vesicle protein (2 distinct high affinity receptor sites are present).

Similar studies were performed for M. brassicae, S. littoralis and P. interpunctella. Although LD50, K_d and R_t values differed substantially, the essential observation that Bt2 and Bt15 are both toxic and are non-competitively binding toxins was confirmed in these three insect species. Thus, it is also a useful toxin combination to prevent resistance of M. brassicae to ICP's or to prevent resistance of Spodoptera species against ICP's expressed in any of the crop plants in which Spodoptera species are a pest.

Binding of Bt2 and Bt4 toxins to BBMV of M. sexta: an example of two non-competitively binding Lepidopteran ICPs

Both Bt2 and Bt4 toxins are toxic to Manduca sexta. LD50 values are 20 and 5.4. ng/cm², respectively. No mutual competition of Bt2 for binding of labelled Bt4 and of Bt4 for binding of labelled Bt2 was observed, demonstrating that Bt2 and Bt4 are non-competitively binding toxins.

Binding of Bt15 and Bt18 toxins to BBMV of S. littoralis: an example of two non-competitively binding Lepidopteran ICPs

Both Bt15 and Bt18 toxins are toxic to S. littoralis. LD 50 values are 93 and 88 ng toxin/cm², respectively. Labelled Bt15 (0.7 nM) or Bt18 (0.9 nM) was incubated with 100 ug of vesicle protein from S. littoralis in combination with varying amounts of unlabelled Bt15 or Bt18 toxin. After a 45 min. incubation period, bound and free toxins were separated. Binding data demonstrate high affinity binding for both Bt15 and Bt18 to S. littoralis BBMV. As seen from Figures 11 and 12, the entire population

of receptor sites of Bt15 was not saturable with Bt18, nor was the entire population of receptor sites of Bt18 saturable with Bt15.

Binding of Bt13 and Bt22 toxins to BBMV of *L. decemlineata* : an example of two non-competitively binding Coleopteran ICPs.

Both Bt13 and Bt22 toxins are toxic to *L. decemlineata*. LD 50 values are 0.8 and 1.1 ug toxin/ml respectively. Labelled Bt13 (1 nM) or Bt22 (0.7 nM) was incubated with 100 ug of vesicle protein/ml from *S. littoralis* in combination with varying amounts of unlabelled Bt13 or Bt22 toxin. After a 45 min. incubation period, bound and free toxins were separated. Binding data demonstrate high affinity binding for both Bt13 and Bt22 to *S. littoralis* BBMV. The entire population of receptor sites of Bt13 was not saturable with Bt22. Nor was the entire population of receptor sites of Bt22 saturable with Bt13.

Binding of Bt2 and Bt18 toxins to BBMV of *M. sexta*: an example of two non-competitively binding Lepidopteran ICPs.

Both Bt2 and Bt18 toxins are toxic to *M. sexta*, and LD 50 values are 20 to 73 ng toxin/cm² respectively. Labelled Bt2 (1.05nM) or Bt18 (0.7nM) was incubated with 100 ug/ml of vesicle protein from *M. sexta* in combination with varying amounts of unlabelled Bt2 or Bt18 toxin. After a 45 min. incubation period, bound and free toxins were separated. Binding data (Figs. 11-12) demonstrate high affinity binding for both Bt2 and Bt18 to *M. sexta* BBMV. The entire population of receptor sites of Bt2 was not saturable with Bt18. Nor was the entire population of receptor sites of Bt18 saturable with Bt2. Calculated Kd and Rt values are:

Bt2: Kd= 0.4 nM, Rt= 3.4 pmol/mg vesicle protein.

Bt18: Kd1= 0.04 nM, Rt1= 2.2 pmoles/mg vesicle protein and Kd2= 168nM Rt2= 194 pmoles/mg vesicle protein (2 distinct receptor sites for Bt18 are present).

A list of non-competitively binding anti-Lepidopteran ICP combinations and anti-Coleopteran ICP combinations is given below, together with their common target insect species in which non-competitiveness has been demonstrated:

Bt2-Bt15 (Manduca sexta, Plutella xylostella, Pieris brassicae, Mamestra brassicae, Plodia interpunctella)

Bt2-Bt18 (Manduca sexta, Spodoptera littoralis)

Bt2-Bt14 (Pieris brassicae, Plutella xylostella, Phthorimaea operculella)

Bt2-Bt4 (Manduca sexta)

Bt15-Bt18 (Manduca sexta, Spodoptera littoralis)

Bt14-Bt15 (Pieris brassicae)

Bt15-Bt4 (Manduca sexta, Spodoptera exigua)

Bt18-Bt4 (Manduca sexta, Spodoptera littoralis)

Bt18-Bt14 (Pieris brassicae)

Bt18-Bt4 (Manduca sexta)

Bt13-Bt21 (Leptinotarsa decemlineata)

Bt13-Bt22 (Leptinotarsa decemlineata)

Bt21-Bt22 (Leptinotarsa decemlineata)

Of course, this list of specific non-competitively binding ICP combinations for specific target insect pests is not exhaustive, and it is believed that other such ICP combinations, including combinations for yet-to-be discovered ICPs, will be found using a similar approach for any target insect species. Likewise, the foregoing list of target insect pests also is not exhaustive, and it is believed that other target insects pests (as well as the plants that are to be transformed to prevent their attack by such pests), against which the specific combinations of ICPs can be

used (e.g., the combination of the Bt2 and Bt14 ICPs in Brassica to prevent resistance of Pieris brassicae against the ICPs expressed in the plant), will be found using a similar approach.

EXAMPLE 7: Selection for resistance of Manduca sexta (tobacco hornworm)

A selection experiment involves exposing a large number of larvae to a concentration of a toxin in a diet killing (e.g., 50-90 %) of the larvae. The surviving larvae are again exposed to toxin concentrations killing a similar proportion of the larvae, and this process is continued for several generations. The sensitivity of the larvae to the toxin is investigated after each four generations of selection.

Selections for 20 generations of M. sexta were performed with Bt2 toxin alone, with Bt18 toxin alone and with a 1/4 (by weight) Bt2/Bt18 mixture. LC50 values of the reference strain for Bt2, Bt18 and the 1/4 Bt2/Bt18 mixture respectively were the following : 20 ng/cm², 73 ng/cm² and 62 ng/cm² of diet.

Selection was initiated at concentrations killing around 75 % of the larvae. After 4 generations of selection, survival increased in both the Bt2 and the Bt18 selection to around 70 %, no such increase was observed in the selection with the combination of Bt2 and Bt18. Dosages were again increased to calculated LC75 values. This was repeated every 4 generations. The selection process was thus continued to the 20th generation. Final results were the following (LC50 of the 20th generation):

- Bt2 selection: LC50 was 6400 ug/g (320 times decreased sensitivity)
- Bt18 selection: LC50 was 15100 ug/g (207 times decreased sensitivity)

- Bt2/Bt18 selection: LC50 was 181 ug/g (3 times decreased sensitivity).

Thus the decrease in sensitivity was about 100 times slower in the combined selection experiment.

Receptor binding in the three selected M. sexta strains was investigated with Bt2 and Bt18 and compared to those of the reference M. sexta strain (non-selected strain). Binding characteristics of the reference strain for the Bt2 and Bt18 toxins were:

Bt2: $K_d = 0.4$ nM, $R_t = 3.4$ pmol/mg vesicle protein

Bt18: $K_{d1} = 0.04$ nM, $R_{t1} = 2.2$ pmoles/mg vesicle protein and $K_{d2} = 168$ nM, $R_{t2} = 194$ pmoles/mg vesicle protein (2 distinct receptor sites for Bt18 are present).

Figures 11 and 12 show the binding of 125 I-labeled toxins to M. sexta brush border membrane vesicle. Vesicles were incubated with labeled toxin [in Fig. 11: 125 I-Bt2-toxin (1.05 nM); in Fig. 12: 125 I-Bt18-toxin (0.7 nM)] in the presence of increasing concentrations of Bt2-toxin (o) or Bt18-toxin (●). Binding is expressed as percentage of the amount bound upon incubation with labeled toxin alone. Non-specific binding was not subtracted. Data were analyzed with the LIGAND computer program. Each point is the mean of a duplicate sample.

The Bt2 selected strain showed no detectable high affinity binding of Bt2 whereas its Bt18 binding characteristics remained close to the reference strain. (Bt18: $K_{d1} = 0.03$ nM, $R_{t1} = 2.8$ pmoles/mg vesicle protein and $K_{d2} = 199$ nM, $R_{t2} = 109$ pmoles/mg vesicle protein; 2 distinct receptor sites for Bt18 are still present).

The Bt18 selected strain lost the high affinity receptor site for Bt18. The lower affinity site for Bt18 was still present in lower concentration than in the reference strain ($K_d = 189$ nM, $R_t = 43$ nM). Bt2 binding site concentration increased markedly compared to the

reference strain ($K_d=0.4$ nM, $R_t=20.8$ pmoles/mg vesicle protein). This strain had a Bt2 sensitivity of $LC_{50}=4$ ng/cm². Thus, its sensitivity for Bt2 had increased as compared to the reference strain ($LC_{50}=20$ ng/cm²).

The Bt2/Bt18 selected strain showed a slight but statistically non-significant decrease in Bt18 binding site concentration. (Bt2 : $K_d = 0.4$ nM, $R_t=3.4$ pmol/mg vesicle protein, Bt18 : $K_{d1}=0.04$ nM, $R_{t1}=1.0$ pmoles/mg vesicle protein and $K_{d2}=168$ nM, $R_{t2}=194$ pmoles/mg vesicle protein; 2 distinct receptor sites for Bt18 are present). These data demonstrate that, in the two selection lines where resistance occurred, the mechanism was situated at the receptor level. Changes in receptor site are shown to be the most likely mechanism of resistance to B. thuringiensis ICPs.

EXAMPLE 8: Mechanism of resistance of the diamondback moth to the microbial insecticide Bacillus thuringiensis.

The mechanism of development of insect resistance to ICPs has been investigated in a P. xylostella strain ("PxR"). This insect strain has developed a high level of resistance in the field against Dipel. Crystals of Dipel preparations contain a mixture of ICPs such as Bt3, Bt2 and Bt73 ICPs; in Example 6, it has been shown that these toxins are competitively binding ICPs.

Resistance to Dipel was confirmed by the toxicity data for the sensitive strain ("PxS") and for the Dipel-resistant strain ("PxR"). High levels of resistance are also observed for the Bt2 protoxin and toxin as shown in the following table :

	LC ₅₀ of Strains	
	PxS	PxR
Bt2	6.7	> 1350
Bt15	132.6	120.4

LC₅₀ data are expressed as ng protein spotted per cm² of artificial diet.

However, insect toxicity data show that there is no resistance to the Bt15 protoxin and Bt15 toxin; this ICP is not present in Dipel crystals. To investigate whether a change in toxin-membrane binding was responsible for resistance, receptor binding studies were performed with ¹²⁵I-labeled Bt2 toxin and Bt15 toxin, with BBMV derived from larvae midguts of the PxR and PxS strains. The results are summarized in Table 1, below.

Table 1. Binding characteristics of Bt2 and Bt15 toxins to brush border membrane vesicles from sensitive and resistant *P. xylostella*.

ICP	strain	Kd (nM)	Rt (pmol/ mg protein)
Bt2 toxin	PxS	8.1	1.6
	PxR	no binding detectable	
Bt15 toxin	PxS	1.9	4.2
	PxR	3.7	5.8

Table 1 shows that there was high-affinity saturable binding of the Bt2 toxin to midgut membranes of the PxS strain, but the PxR strain showed no detectable level of Bt2 toxin binding. With the Bt15 toxin, there was significant binding to BBMV of both the PxR and PxS strains, and values are not significantly different for the two strains.

These data show that resistance in *P. xylostella* is due to an alteration in toxin-membrane binding. Resistance to the Bt2 toxin and the sensitivity toward the Bt15 toxin of the PxR strain is reflected by the binding characteristics shown in Table 1.

Hence, when different non-competitively binding ICPs (i.e., Bt2 and Bt15) are available with activity against the same insect species (e.g., *P. xylostella*),

resistance to one ICP(Bt2) does not imply resistance against other ICPs (such as Bt15). Thus, ICPs with different binding properties can be used in combination to delay development of insect resistance to ICPs.

EXAMPLE 9: Separate transfer of two ICP genes within individual transcriptional units to the genome of plant cells

Two procedures are envisaged for obtaining the combined expression of two ICP genes, such as the bt2 and bt15 genes in transgenic plants, such as tomato plants. These procedures are based on the transfer of two chimeric ICP genes, not linked within the same DNA fragment, to the genome of a plant of interest.

A first procedure is based on sequential transformation steps in which a plant, already transformed with a first chimeric ICP gene, is retransformed in order to introduce a second ICP gene. The sequential transformation makes use of two different selectable marker genes, such as the resistance genes for kanamycin ("km") and phosphotricin acetyl transferase ("PPT"), which confers resistance to phosphotricin. The use of both these selectable markers has been described in De Block et al. (1987).

The second procedure is based on the cotransformation of two chimeric ICP genes on different plasmids in a single step. The integration of both ICP genes can be selected by making use of the two selectable markers conferring resistance to Km and PPT, linked with the respective ICP genes.

For either procedure, a Ti-plasmid vector is used for Agrobacterium-mediated transformation of each chimeric ICP gene into plant cells.

Plasmid pGSH163, described in EP 0193259, contains the following chimeric genes between the T-DNA border

repeats: a gene fragment encoding the toxin part of the bt2 gene under the control of the TR2' promoter and the neo gene under control of the TR1' promoter. The 3' ends of the T-DNA gene 7 and octopine synthase respectively provide information for the 3' end formation of transcripts.

A chimeric bt15 gene containing a gene fragment encoding the toxin of the Bt15 ICP under the control of the TR2' promoter, was constructed in the following way (Figure 15). pOH50 consists of pUC18 with the whole bt15 gene under the control of the lac promoter. A HindIII-BglIII fragment was cloned in pMa5-8 yielding pJB3. By site-directed mutagenesis, a NcoI site was created at the initiation codon to yield pVE29. A fragment containing the truncated gene fragment of the bt15 gene, with a translational stop codon, was obtained by isolation of BclI-ClaI from pOH50 and cloning in pLK91, yielding pHW38. The whole toxin gene fragment was reconstructed under the control of the tac promoter, yielding pVE35, by ligation of a ClaI-PstI fragment from pHW38, a NcoI-ClaI fragment from pVE29 and a NcoI-PstI fragment from pOH48. A truncated bt15 gene fragment with a NcoI site at the initiation codon was obtained from pVE35 as a 1980 NcoI-BamHI fragment and cloned in pGSJ141, digested with ClaI and BamHI. pGSJ141 has been described in EPA 88402115.5. Ligation of the filled ClaI site to the filled NcoI site yielded a chimeric TR2' - truncated bt15 - 3'g7 construct (pTVE47). As a selectable marker in this plasmid, the bar gene encoding phosphinothricin acetyl transferase and conferring resistance to PPT was used. A chimeric bar gene containing the bar gene under the control of the 35S promoter and followed by the 3' end of the octopine synthase was introduced in pTVE47. From pDE110, a 35S-bar-3'ocs fragment was obtained as a

StuI-HindIII fragment and was cloned in pTVE47 digested with PstI and HindIII. This yielded the plasmid pTHW88 (Figure 15) which contains the truncated bt15 gene under the control of the TR2' promoter and the bar gene under the control of the 35S promoter between the T-DNA border repeats. Plasmid pGSH163 is cointegration type Ti-plasmid vector, whereas pTHW88 is a binary type Ti-plasmid vector as described in EPA 0193259.

Both plasmids were mobilized in the A. tumefaciens strain C58C1Rif (pGV2260) according to Deblaere et al. (1988). In the sequential transformation procedure, tomato was transformed according to De Block et al. (1987) with the A. tumefaciens strain C58C1Rif carrying pGS1163 resulting from the cointegration of pGSH163 and pGV2260. Individual transformants were selected for kanamycin resistance, and regenerated plants were characterized for expression of the truncated bt2 gene according to Vaeck et al. (1987). One representative transformant was subsequently retransformed with the A. tumefaciens strain C58C1Rif (pGV2260 and pTHW88), and transformants were selected for PPT resistance. Using this cotransformation procedure, the respective Agrobacteria strains, carrying the cointegrate vector pGS1163 and the binary vector pTHW88, were used for transformation of tomato. Individual plants were selected for resistance to Km and PPT.

Schematically shown in Fig. 15 are:

- a) construction of pVE29: bt15 N-terminal gene fragment with NcoI site introduced at ATG initiation codon.
- b) construction of pVE35: bt15 C-terminal truncated gene fragment under control of the tac promoter.

- c) construction of pTHW88: binary T-DNA vector with a chimeric bt15 gene and a chimeric bar gene within the T-DNA border repeats.

In both cases, co-expression of the two ICP genes in the individual transformants was evaluated by insect toxicity tests as described in EP 0193259 and by biochemical means. Specific RNA probes allowed the quantitative analysis of the transcript levels; monoclonal antibodies cross-reacting with the respective gene products allowed the quantitative analysis of the respective gene products in ELISA tests (EP 0193259); and specific DNA probes allowed the characterization of the genomic integrations of the bt2 and bt15 genes in the transformants. It was found that the transformed tomato plants simultaneously expressed both the bt2 gene (8.1 ng/mg) and the bt15 gene (7.6 ng/mg) as measured by ELISA, which would prevent or delay development of resistance of M. sexta to the insecticidal effects of the Bt2 and Bt15 toxins, being expressed.

These procedures also could be applied when one or both ICP genes are part of a hybrid gene. For example, the same strategy as described above could be followed with the plasmid vectors pGSH152, containing a chimeric truncated bt2-neo hybrid gene under control of the TR2' promoter, and pTHW88 in suitable Agrobacterium strains.

EXAMPLE 10: Separate transfer of two ICP genes to the nuclear genome of separate plants in independent transformation events and subsequent combination in a single plant through crossing.

Tobacco plants have been transformed with either the bt18 gene or the bt15 gene by applying the same cloning strategies as described in EP 0358557 and EP

193259, respectively. For both genes, the plants were transformed with plant expression vectors containing either the truncated bt18 or bt15 gene, which just encode the Bt18 or Bt15 toxin, respectively.

The mortality rate of Spodoptera littoralis larvae feeding on the transformed plants is significantly higher than the mortality rate of larvae fed on untransformed plants.

The bt18-transformed plant, which is homozygous for the bt18 gene, is then crossed with the bt15 - transformed plant, which is homozygous for the bt15 gene. After selfing, a plant homozygous for both genes is obtained.

The resulting tobacco plants, expressing both the bt18 and bt15 genes, delay significantly development of resistance by S. littoralis to either the Bt18 or Bt15 toxin expressed by the plants.

EXAMPLE 11: Transfer of two chimeric ICP genes linked within the same DNA to the genome of plant cells

The strategy used is based on the organization of two independent chimeric ICP genes between the T-DNA border repeats of a single vector. Binding studies indicated that the Bt2 and Bt14 toxins are two non-competitively binding ICPs with insecticidal activity towards Pieris brassicae. For expression in plants, both the bt2 and bt14 genes can be co-expressed to prevent insect resistance development. For the design of a plasmid vector with each ICP gene under the control of a separate promoter, two possibilities can be envisaged: 1) three chimeric constructs carrying the truncated bt2 and bt14 genes and a selectable marker, respectively; or 2) a hybrid of a truncated gene fragment (bt2 or bt14) and the neo gene can be used in combination with a truncated bt14 or bt2 gene.

This Example describes the construction of the vector pTHW94 for plant transformations carrying the following chimeric ICP genes between the T-DNA border repeats: a truncated bt2 gene fragment under the control of the TR2' promoter and a hybrid truncated bt14-neo gene under the control of the TR1' promoter. The 3' end of the T-DNA gene 7 and octopine synthase, respectively, provide information for proper 3' end formation. pTHW94 has been deposited at the DSM under accession no. 5514 on August 28, 1989.

Schematically shown in Fig. 16 are the:

- a) construction of pHW44: bt14 N-terminal gene fragment with NcoI site introduced at ATG initiation codon.
- b) construction of pHW67: reconstruction of the bt14 gene under the control of the tac promoter.
- c) construction of pHW71: construction of a hybrid truncated bt14-neo gene under the control of the tac promoter.
- d) construction of pTHW94: binary T-DNA vector with a chimeric bt14 gene and a chimeric bt2 gene within the T-DNA border repeats.

The pTHW94 vector is mobilized into the Agrobacterium strain C58C1Rif (pMP90) which is used to transform Brassica napus according to the procedure described by De Block et al. (1989). Transformants are selected on Km, and regenerated plants are found to express both ICP gene products in insect toxicity tests and biochemical tests.

EXAMPLE 12: Expression of two ICP genes in a hybrid construct

In order to obtain a combined and simultaneous expression of two ICP genes, truncated gene fragments encoding the toxic parts of two different ICPs can be fused in a proper reading frame and placed, as a hybrid gene, under the control of the same promoter in a chimaeric gene construct. Toxic cores from certain ICPs can be liberated from their protoxins by protease activation at the N- and/or C- terminal end. Thus, hybrid genes can be designed with one or more regions encoding protease cleavage site(s) at the fusion point(s) of two or more ICP genes.

The simultaneous co-expression of the bt2 and bt14 genes is obtained by constructing a hybrid gene composed of a truncated bt14 gene fragment fused to a truncated bt2 gene fragment. Schematically shown in Figure 17 is the construction of such a hybrid bt2-bt14 gene with a C-terminal bt2 gene fragment (bt860) encoding the toxic core of the Bt2 protoxin in frame with a C-terminal truncated bt14 gene fragment encoding the toxic core of the Bt14 protoxin. The BclI site in the bt2 gene, localized downstream of the trypsin cleavage site, is fused in frame with the NcoI site introduced at the N-terminal end of the truncated bt14 gene fragment. To this end, the plasmids pLBKm860 (EP 0193259) and pHW67 are used. pLBKm860 contains a hybrid bt2-neo gene under control of the lambda P_i promoter. The bt2 gene moiety in the hybrid gene is a C-terminal truncated bt2 gene fragment, indicated as bt860 (in Fig. 17) (see also Vaeck et al, 1987). The construction of pHW67 is described in Fig. 16. pHW67 contains a C-terminal truncated bt14 gene fragment (bt14tox) with a NcoI site at the ATG initiation codon, a

translation stop codon located at the BclI site of the intact bt14 gene and a BamHI site downstream of the whole gene fragment. To fuse both gene fragments in the proper reading frame, the BclI and NcoI ends of the respective plasmids are treated with Klenow DNA polymerase and S1 nuclease as indicated in Figure 16. The resulting plasmid pJB100 contains the hybrid bt860-bt14tox gene under control of the lambda P_L promoter and directs the expression in E. coli of a fusion protein with the expected mobility on SDS-PAGE.

Crude extracts of the E. coli strain show the toxicity of the fusion protein, expressed by the strain, against P. brassicae. It has also been confirmed by N-terminal amino acid sequence analyses of the fusion protein produced by the E. coli strain that the N-terminal amino acids from the Bt14 protoxin are processed upon activation. The bt2-bt14 hybrid gene product has thus two potential protease cleavage sites.

Subsequently, this hybrid gene is inserted into a vector for plant transformations and placed under control of a suitable promoter and transferred to the genome of brassica (EP 0193259) where both the bt2 and bt14 genes are expressed in insect toxicity tests.

Table 2

Gene	Bt strain	Host range	amino acids encoded	predicted MW(kDa) of encoded aminoacids	Disclosure of nucleotide sequence
bt3	HD-1 kurstaki	L	1176	133.2	Schnepf et al., 1985
bt2	berliner 1715	L	1155	131	Höfte et al., 1986
bt73	HD-73	L	1178	133.3	Adang et al, 1985
bt14	entomocidus HD-110	L	1207	138	Brizzard and Whiteley, 1988
bt15	entomocidus HD-110	L	1189	134.8	Fig. 14
bt4	HD-68 aizawai	L	1165	132.5	Fig. 13
bt18	darmstadiensis HD-146	L	1171	133	EP appln. 88402241.9
bt13	BtS1, DSM4288 22/10/87	C	644	73.1	EP appln. 88402115.5
bt21	BtPGSI208, DSM 5131, 19/1/89	C	651	74.2	EP appln. 89400428.2
bt22	BtPGSI245, DSM 5132, 19/1/89	C	1138	129	EP appln. 8940028.2
P2	HD-263	L/D	633	70.9	Donovan et al, 1988
Cry B2	HD-1	L	633	70.8	Widner and Whiteley, 1989

REFERENCES

- Adang M., Staver M., Rocheleau T., Leighton J., Barker R. and Thompson D. (1985), *Gene* 36, 289-300.
- Angenon et al (1989), *Molecular and Cellular Biology* 9, 5676-5684.
- Barton K., Whiteley H. and Yang N.-S. (1987), *Plant Physiol.* 85, 1103-1109.
- Bernard H., Remaut E., Hersfield M., Das H., Helinski D., Yanofski C. and Franklin N. (1979), *Gene* 5, 59-76.
- Bell R. and Joachim F. (1976), *Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am.* 69, 365-373.
- Botterman J. and Zabeau M. (1987), *DNA* 6, 583-591.
- Bradford M. (1976), *Anal. Biochem.* 72, 248-254.
- Brattsten L., Holyoke C., Leeper J. and Raffa K. (1986), *Science* 231, 1255-1260.
- Brizzard B. and Whiteley H. (1988), *Nucleic Acids Research* 16, 4168-4169.
- Deblaere R., Reynaerts A., Höfte H., Hernalsteens J-P, Leemans J. and Van Montagu M. (1988), *Methods in Enzymol.* 153, 277-292.
- De Block M., Botterman J., Vandewiele M., Dockx J., Thoen, Gosselé V., Rao Movva, Thompson C., Van Montagu M. and Leemans J. (1987), *EMBO J.* 6, 2513-2518.
- De Block et al (1989), *Plant Physiology* 91, 694-701.
- De Boer H., Comstock L. and Vasser M. (1983), *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 80, 21-25.

- de Framond A., Back E., Chilton W., Kayes L. and Chilton M-D (1986), Mol. Gen. Genet. 202, 125-131.
- De Greve et al (1982), J. Mol. Appl. Genet. 1 (6), 499-511.
- De La Pena and Schell (1986), Nature 325, 274-276.
- Delauney A., Tabaeizadeh Z. and Verma D. (1988), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85, 4300-4304.
- Depicker A., Herman L., Jacobs A., Schell J. and Van Montagu M. (1985), Mol. Gen. Genet. 201, 477-484.
- Donovan W., Dankoscik C. and Gilbert W. (1988), J. Bacteriol. 170, 4732-4738.
- Dulmage H.T and cooperators (1981), In : Microbial control of pests and plant diseases 1970-1980 (Ed. H.D. Burges), Academic Press, 193-222.
- Finney D. (1962), Probit Analysis (University Press, Cambridge), pp. 50-80.
- Fischhoff D., Bowdish K., Perlak F., Marrone P., McCormick S., Niedermeyer J., Dean D., Kuzano-Kretzmer K., Mayer E., Rochester D., Rogers S. and Fraley R. (1987), Bio/Technology 5, 807-812.
- Franck, Guilley, Jonard, Richards and Hirth (1980), Cell 21, 285-294.
- French B., Maul H. and Maul G. (1986), Anal. Biochem. 156, 417-423.
- Fuller F. (1982), Gene 19, 43-54.
- Gardner, Howarth, Hahn, Brown-Luedi, Shepard and Messing, Nucl. Acids Res. 9, 2871-2887.
- Goldberg L. and Margalit J. (1977), Mosq. News 37, 355-358.

- Goldman I., Arnold J. and Carlton B. (1986), J. Invert. Pathol. 47, 317-324.
- Gould F. (1988), Bioscience 38, 26-33.
- Haider M., Knowles B. and Ellar D. (1986), Eur. J. Biochem. 156, 531-540.
- Herrera-Estrella (1983) Nature 303, 209-213.
- Hofmann C., Lüthy P., Hütter R. and Pliska V. (1988a), Eur. J. Biochem. 173, 85-91.
- Hofmann C., Vanderbruggen H., Höfte H., Van Rie J., Jansens S. and Van Mellaert H. (1988b), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85, 7844-7848.
- Höfte H., Van Rie J., Jansens S., Van Houtven A., Verbruggen H. and Vaeck M. (1988), Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 54, 2010-2017.
- Höfte H., De Greve H., Seurinck J., Jansens S., Mahillon J., Ampe C., Vanderkerkhove J., Vanderbruggen H., Van Montagu M., Zabeau M. and Vaeck M. (1987), Eur. J. Biochem. 161, 273-280.
- Höfte H. and Whiteley H.R. (1989), Microbiological Reviews 53, 242-255.
- Hsiung H. and Becker G. (1988), Biotech. and Genetic Engin. Rev. 6, 43-65.
- Hull and Howell (1987), Virology 86, 482-493.
- Hunter W. and Greenwood F. (1962), Nature 194, 495-496.
- Kozak M. (1987), Mol. Cell. Biol. 7, 3438-3445.
- Krebbers E., Herdies L., De Clercq A., Seurinck J., Leemans J., Van Damme J., Segura M., Gheysen G., Van Montagu M. and

- Vandekerckhove J. (1988), Plant Physiol. 87, 859-866.
- Knowles B. and Ellar D. (1986), J. Cell. Sci 83, 89-101.
 - Krieg A., Huger A., Langenbruch G. and Schnetter W. (1983), Z. Ang. Ent. 96, 500-508.
 - Krieg A. and Langenbruch G. (1981), In : Microbial control of pests and plant diseases 1970-1980 (Ed. H.D. Burges), Academic Press, 837-986.
 - Kirsch K. and Schmutterer H. (1988), J. Appl. Ent. 105, 249-255.
 - Kronstad J., Schnepf H. and Whiteley H. (1983), J. Bacteriol. 154, 419-428.
 - Mahillon J. and Delcour J. (1984), J. Microbiol. Methods 3, 69-73.
 - Maxam A. and Gilbert W. (1980), Methods in Enzymol. 65, 499-560.
 - McGaughey W. (1985), Science 229, 193-195.
 - McGaughey W. and Beeman R. (1988), J. Econ. Entomol. 81, 28-33.
 - Munson P. and Rodbard D. (1980), Anal. Biochem. 107, 220-239.
 - Pazkowski and cooperators (1984), EMBO J 3, 2717-2722.
 - Peleman J., Boerjan W., Engler G., Seurinck J., Botterman J., Alliotte T., Van Montagu M. and Inzé D. (1989), The Plant Cell 1, 81-93.
 - Remaut E., Stanssen P. and Fiers W. (1981), Gene 15, 81-93.
 - Rocha-Sosa et al (1989) EMBO J. 8, 23-29.
 - Sandler S., Stayton M., Townsend J., Ralstan M., Bedbrook J. and Dunsmuir P. (1988), Plant Mol. Biol. 11, 301-310.

- Scatchard G. (1949), Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 51, 660-672.
- Schocher R., Shillito R., Saul M., Pazkowski J. and Potrykus I. (1986) Bio/technology 4, 1093-1096.
- Shields (1987), Nature 328, 12-13.
- Schnepf H., Wong H. and Whiteley H. (1985), J. Biol. Chem. 260, 6264-6272.
- Stanssens P., Remaut E. and Fiers W. (1985), Gene 36, 211-223.
- Stanssens P., McKeown Y., Friedrich K. and Fritz H. (1987) : "Oligo-nucleotide directed construction of mutations by the gapped duplex DNA method using the pMa/c plasmid vectors", published in the Collection of Experimental Procedures distributed at the EMBO course entitled "Directed mutagenesis and protein engineering" in July 1987 at the Max Planck Institut für Biochemie, Martinsried, FRG.
- Stone T., Sims S. and Marrone P. (1989), J. Invert. Pathol. 53, 228-234.
- Vaeck M., Reynaerts A., Höfte H., Jansens S., De Beukeleer M., Dean C. Zabeau M., Van Montagu M. and Leemans J. (1987), Nature 327, 33-37.
- Voller, Bidwell and Barlett (1976), In: Manual of Clinical Immunology (Eds. Rose and Friedman), pp. 506-512, American Society of Microbiology, Washington
- Velten J., Velten L., Hain R. and Schell J. (1984), EMBO J. 3, 2723-2730.
- Velten J. and Schell J. (1985), Nucl. Acids Res. 13, 6981-6998.

- Widner W. and Whiteley H. (1989), J. Bacteriol. 171, 965-974.
- Wolfersberger M., Lüthy P., Maurer A., Parenti P., Sacchi V., Giordana B. and Hanozet G. (1987), Comp. Biochem. Physiol. 86, 301-308.
- Yanish-Perron C., Veiera J. and Messing J. (1985), Gene 33, 103-119.

CLAIMS

1. A cell of a plant, characterized by: at least two B. thuringiensis ICP genes stably inserted into the genome of said plant; each of said genes encoding a different non-competitively binding ICP for an insect species; whereby at least two different ICPs can be produced by said cell which do not bind competitively to the brush border membrane of the columnar midgut epithelial cell of said insect species.
2. The cell of claim 1 wherein at least one marker gene, encoding a protein or polypeptide which renders said cell easily distinguishable from cells which do not contain said protein or polypeptide, is in the same genetic locus as at least one of said ICP genes.
3. The cell of claim 1 or 2, wherein each of said ICP genes is under the control of a separate promoter capable of directing gene expression in said cell and is provided with a separate signal for 3' end formation and within a same transcriptional unit.
4. The cell of claim 2 or 3, in which said marker DNA is under the control of a separate promoter capable of directing gene expression in said plant cell and is provided with a signal for 3' end formation within a same transcriptional unit.
5. The cell of claim 1 or 2, wherein said ICP genes are within a same transcriptional unit and under the control of a single promoter.
6. The cell of claim 5, wherein said marker gene is fused with at least one of said ICP genes and is within said same transcriptional unit and under the control of said promoter.

7. The cell of claim 5 or 6, wherein a DNA fragment, encoding a protease-sensitive or -cleavable amino acid sequence, is in said same transcriptional unit as said ICP genes and intercalated in frame between said ICP genes.

8. The cell of claim 5 or 6, wherein said ICP genes are combined in a dicistronic unit comprising an intergenic DNA sequence which allows reinitiation of translation and is in said same transcriptional unit as said ICP genes and intercalated between said ICP genes.

9. The cell of anyone of claims 1 to 8, wherein said ICP genes are genes encoding insecticidal proteins having activity against Lepidoptera species and are particularly the following genes: bt2 and/or bt73 and/or bt4 and/or bt14 and/or bt15 and/or bt18.

10. The cell of any of claims 1 to 8, wherein said ICP genes are genes encoding insecticidal proteins having activity against a Coleoptera species and are particularly the following genes: bt13 and/or bt21 and/or bt22.

11. The cell of any of claims 2 to 10 wherein said marker DNA is: an herbicide resistance gene, particularly a sfr or sfrv gene; a gene encoding a modified target enzyme for a herbicide having a lower affinity for the herbicide, particularly a modified 5-EPSP as a target for glyphosate or a modified glutamine synthetase as a target for a GS inhibitor; or an antibiotic resistance gene, particularly NPTII.

12. The cell of any of claims 3 to 6, wherein said promoter is: a constitutive promoter, particularly a 35S promoter or a 35S3 promoter; a PNOS promoter; a POCS promoter; a wound-inducible

promoter, particularly a TR1' or TR2' promoter; a promoter which directs gene expression selectively in plant tissue having photosynthetic activity, particularly a SSU promoter; or a tissue-specific promoter, particularly a tuber-specific promoter, a stem-specific promoter or a seed-specific promoter.

13. A vector suitable for transforming a cell of a plant, particularly a plant capable of being infected with Agrobacterium, comprising said ICP genes of any of claims 1 to 12.

14. A process for producing a plant having improved insect resistance and having said ICP genes of anyone of claims 1 to 12 stably integrated into the nuclear genome of their cells, characterized by the non-biological steps of transforming a cell of said plant by introducing said ICP genes into the nuclear genome of said cell and regenerating said plant and reproduction material from said cell.

15. A plant cell culture, consisting of the plant cells of anyone of claims 1 to 12.

16. A plant, consisting of the plant cells of anyone of claims 1 to 12.

17. Brassica, tomato, potato, tobacco, cotton or lettuce consisting of the plant cells of anyone of claims 1 to 12, wherein said ICP genes comprise one of the following pairs of genes: bt2 and bt18 or bt73 and bt15 or bt2 and bt18 or bt2 and bt14 or bt2 and bt4 or bt15 and bt18 or bt14 and bt15 or bt4 and bt15 or bt13 and bt21 or bt21 and bt22 or bt13 and bt22.

18. The cell of anyone of claims 1-12, made by a process as described hereinabove.

19. A method for rendering a plant resistant to an insect species by transforming the plant with said ICP genes of anyone of claims 1-12.

FIGURE 1

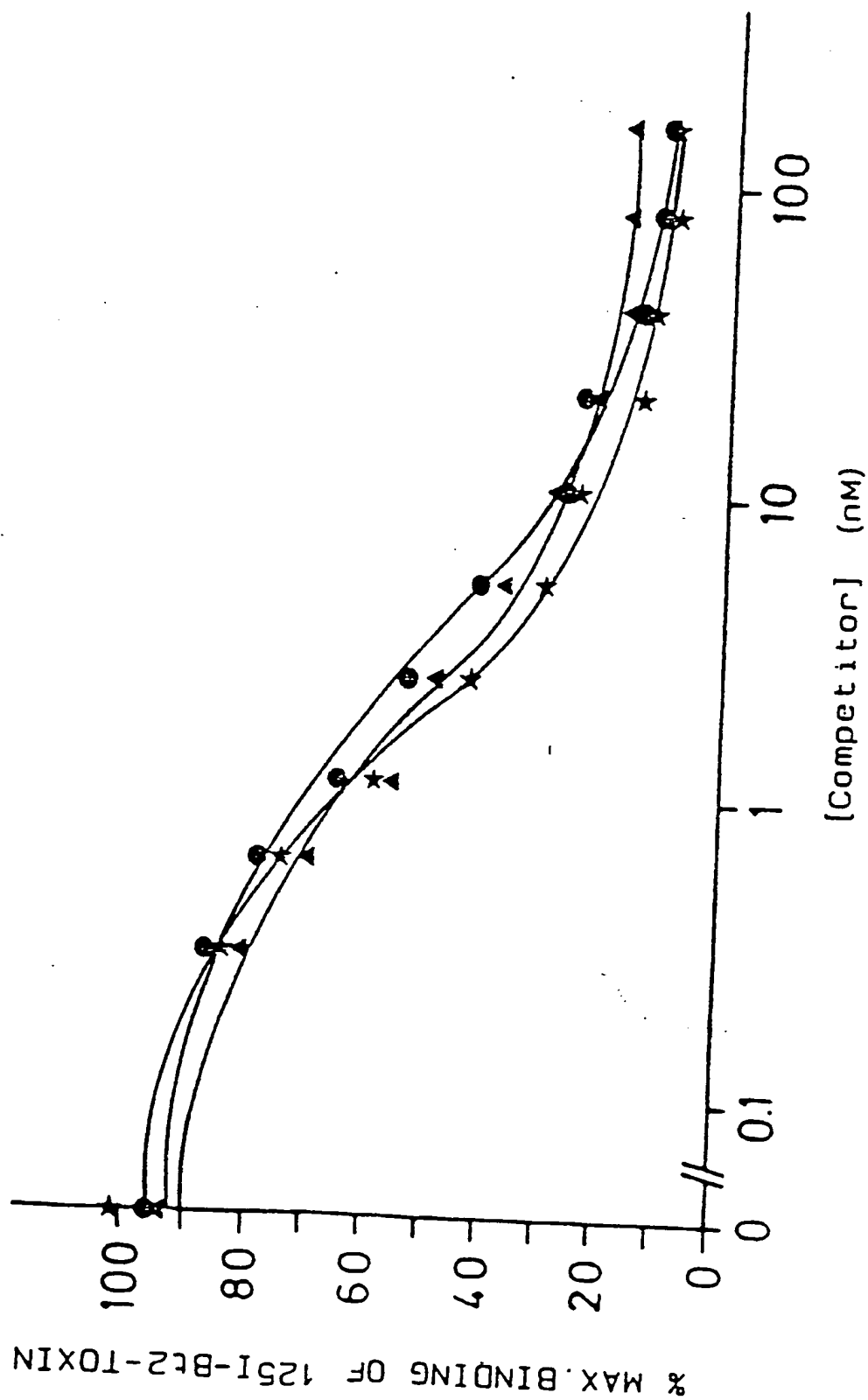


FIGURE 2

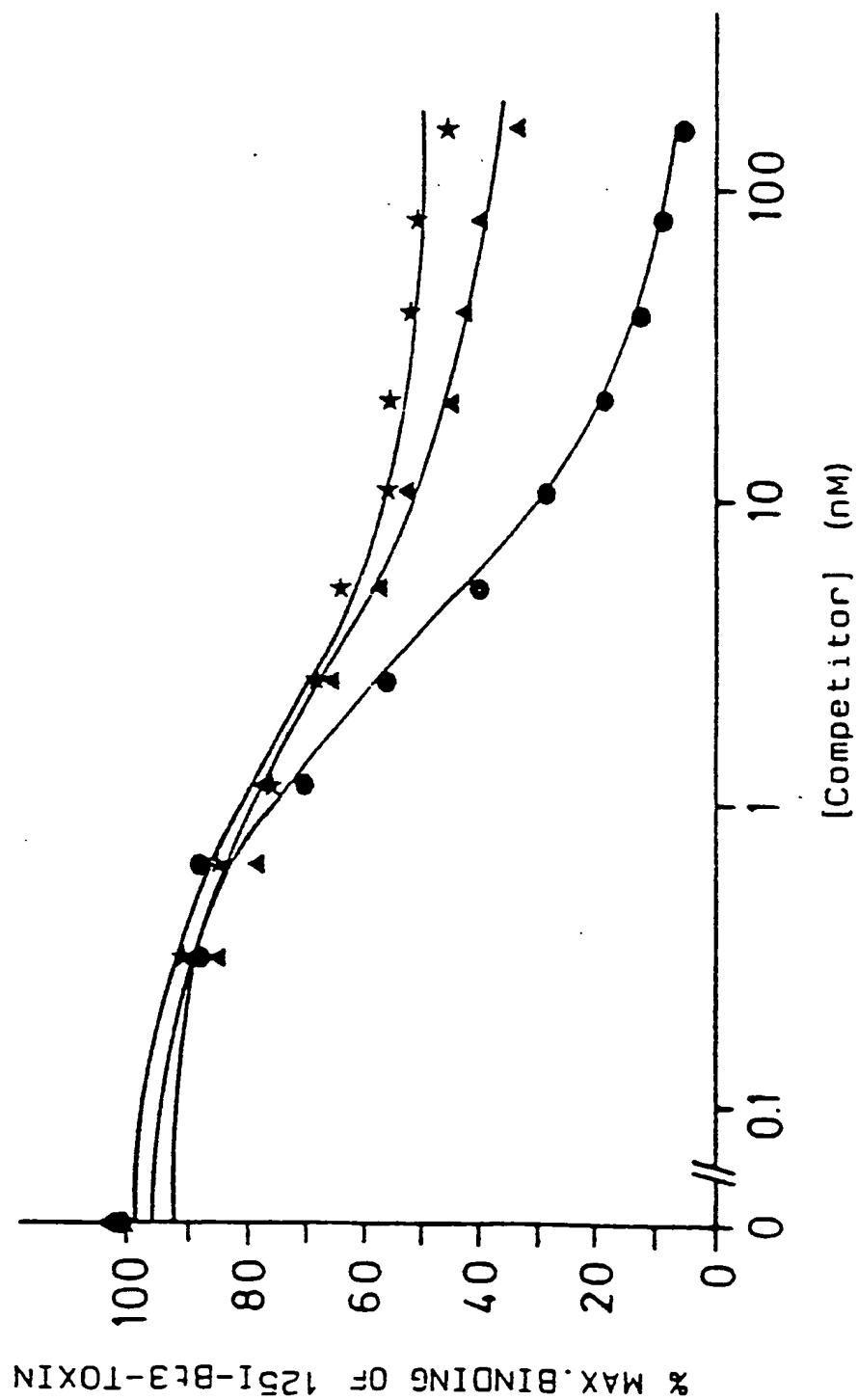


FIGURE 3

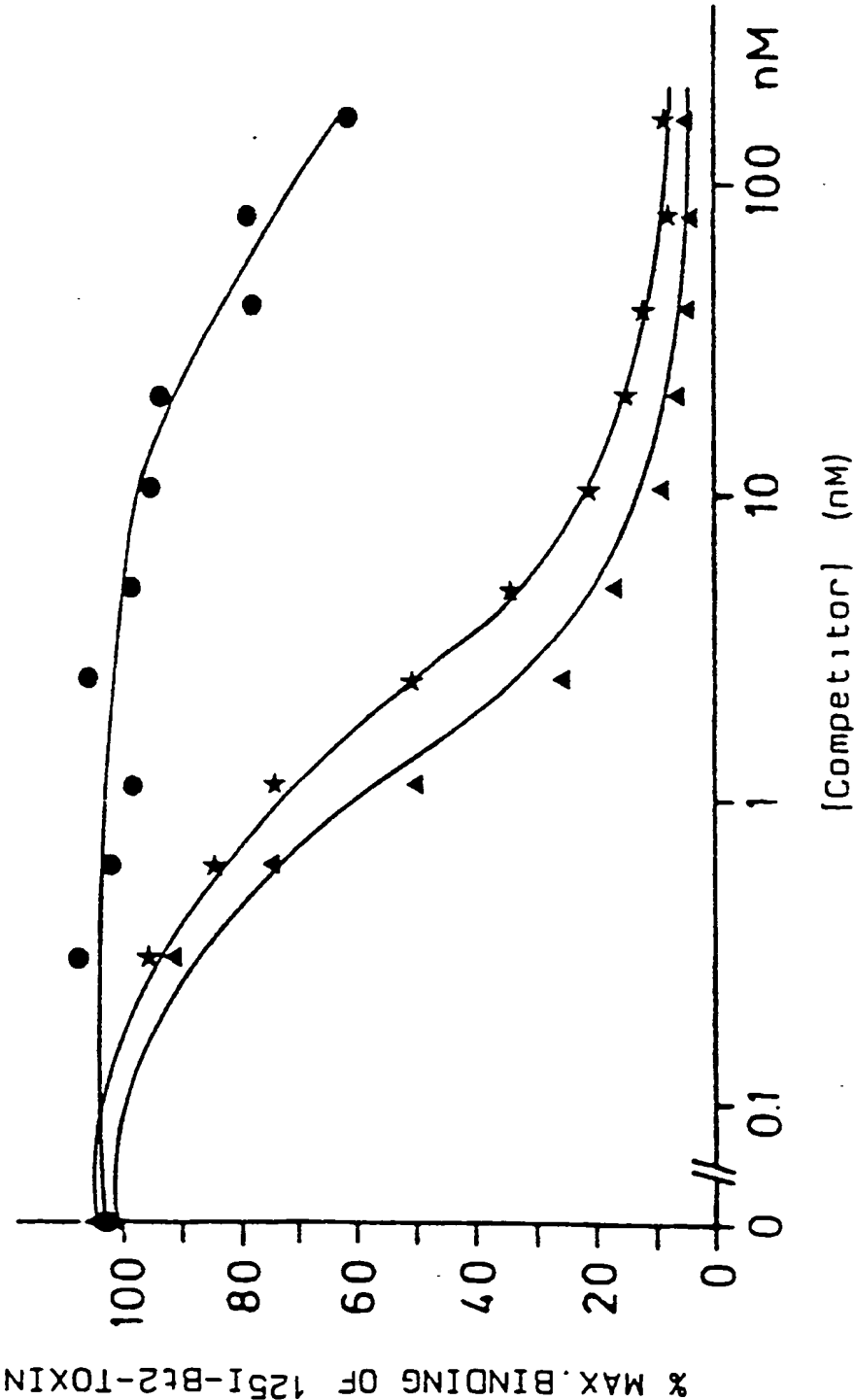


FIGURE 4

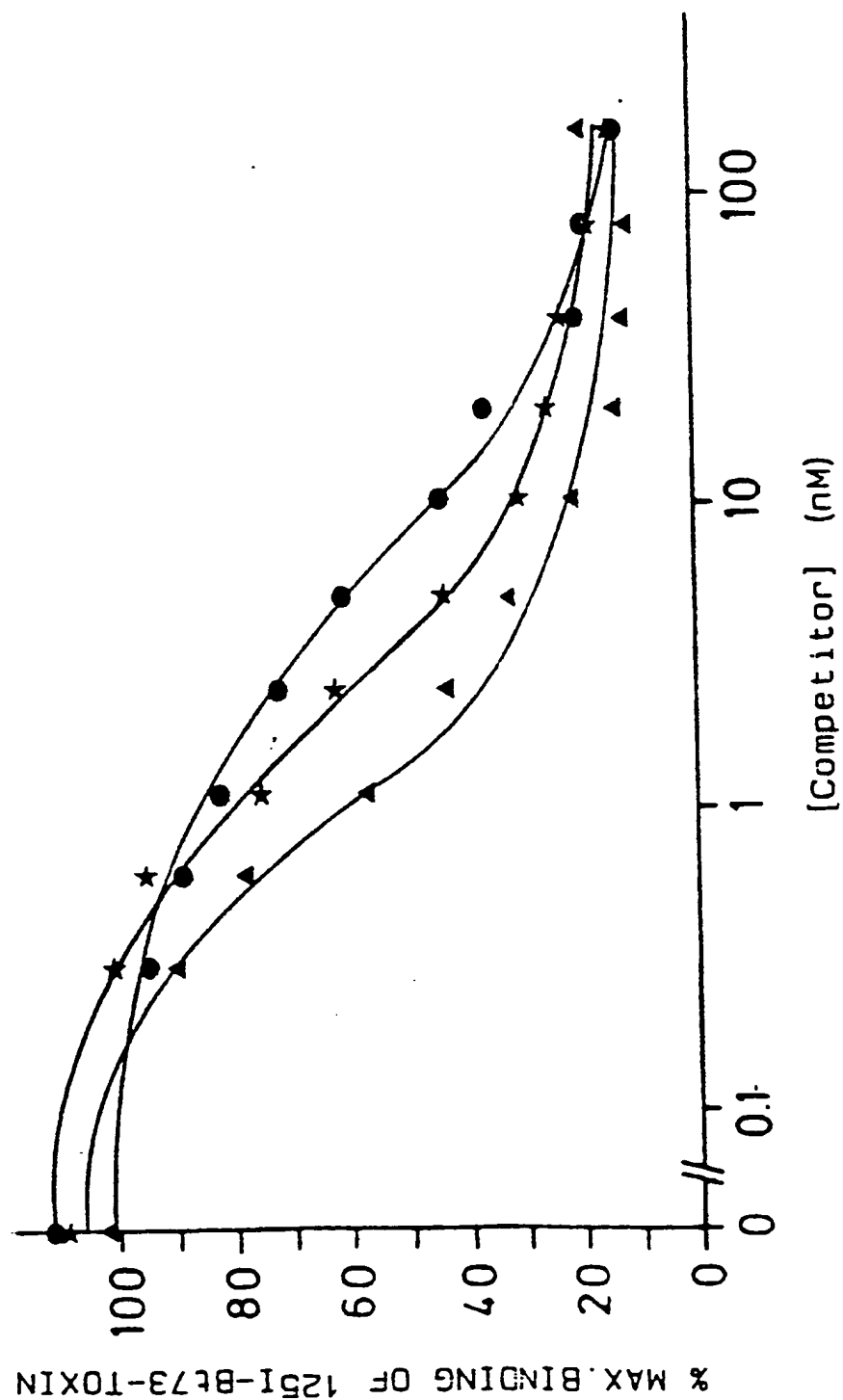


FIGURE 5

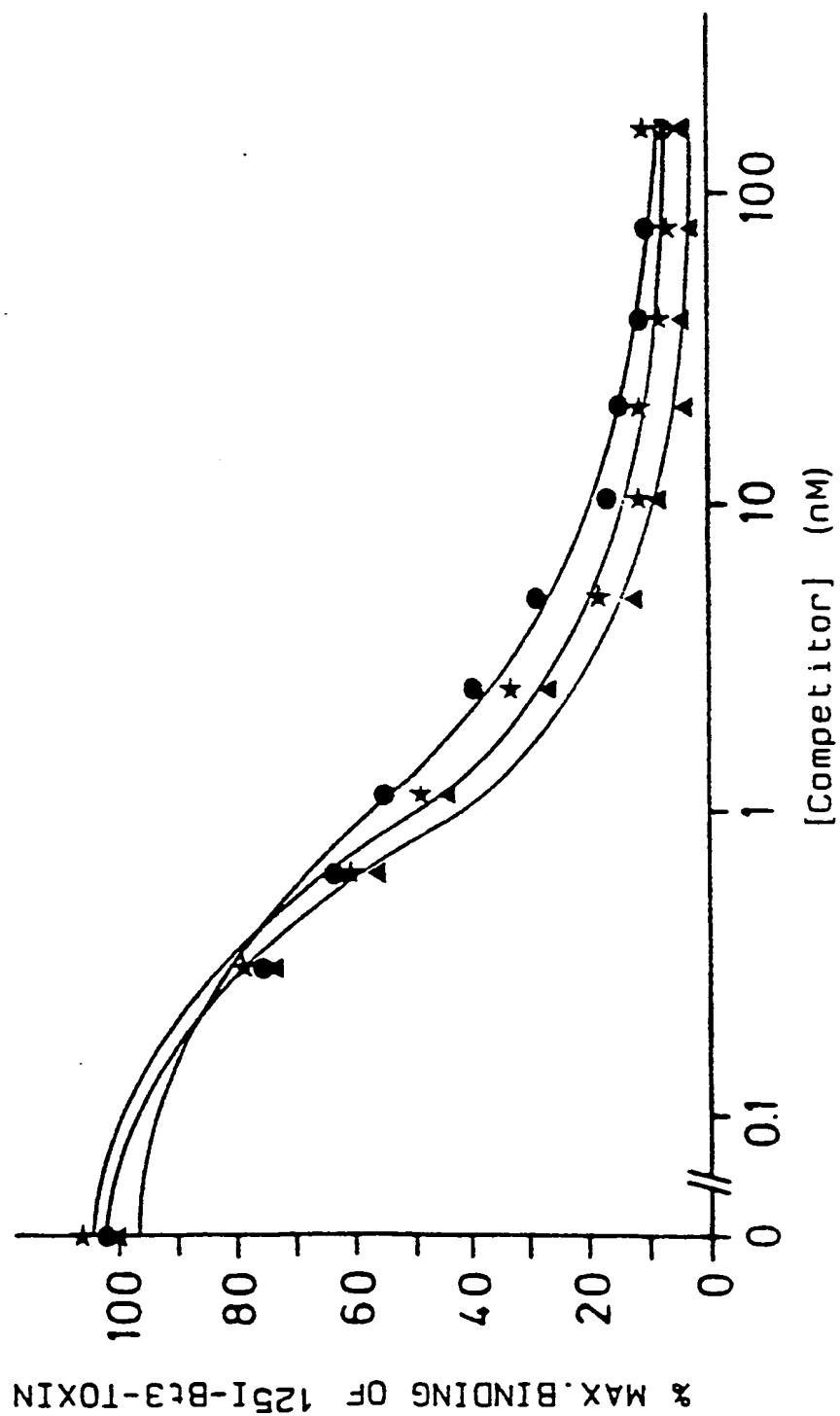
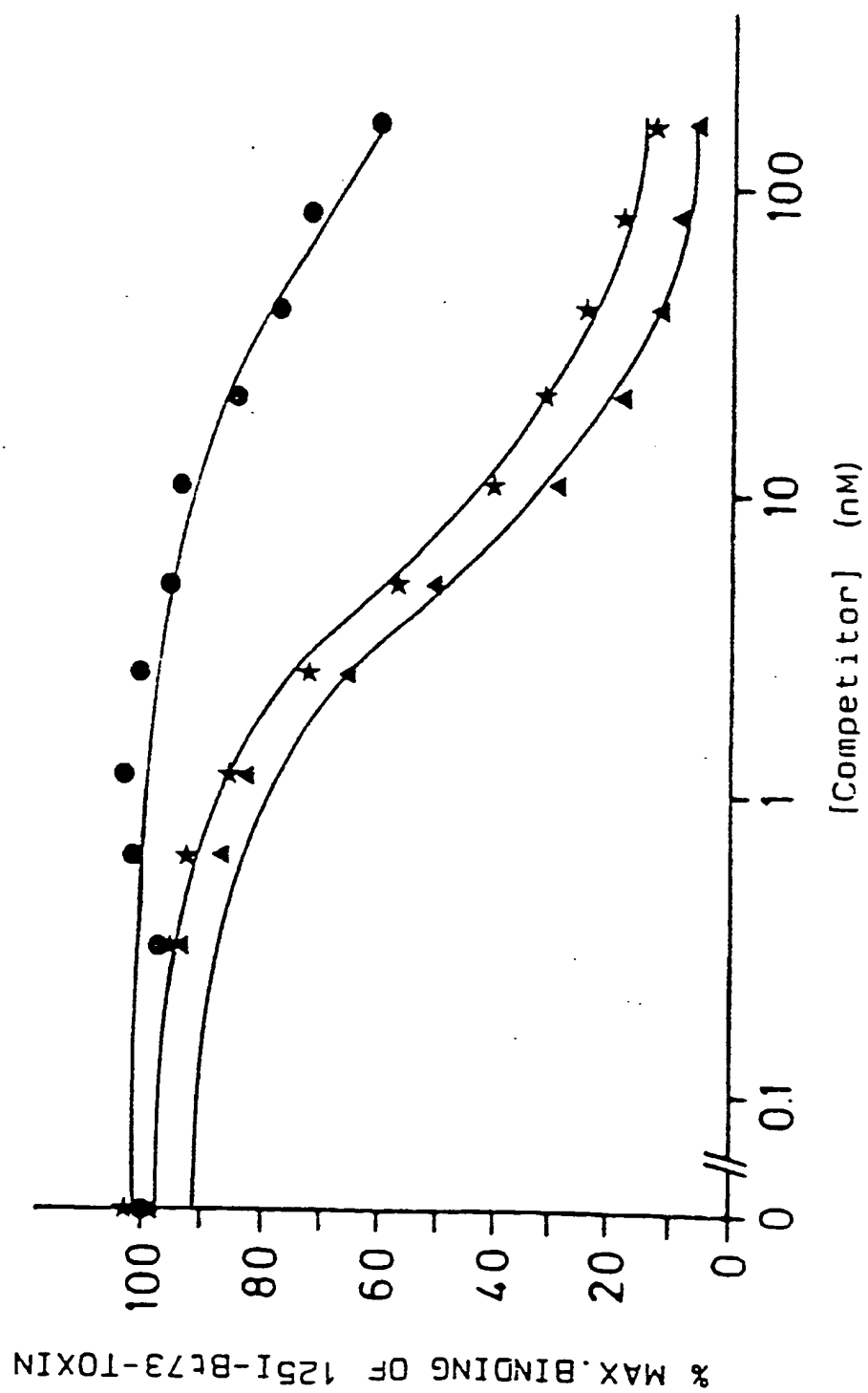
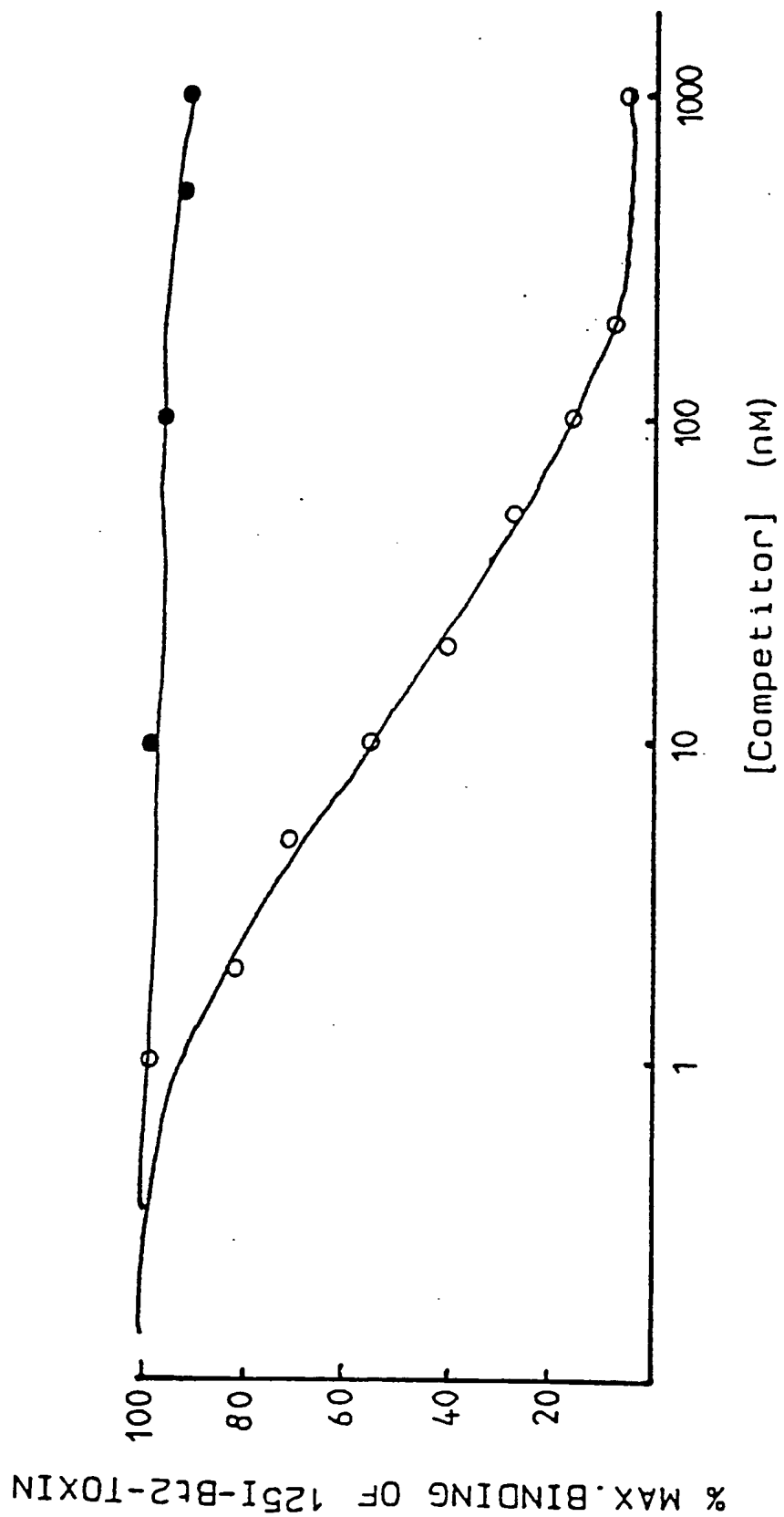


FIGURE 6



7/55

FIGURE 7



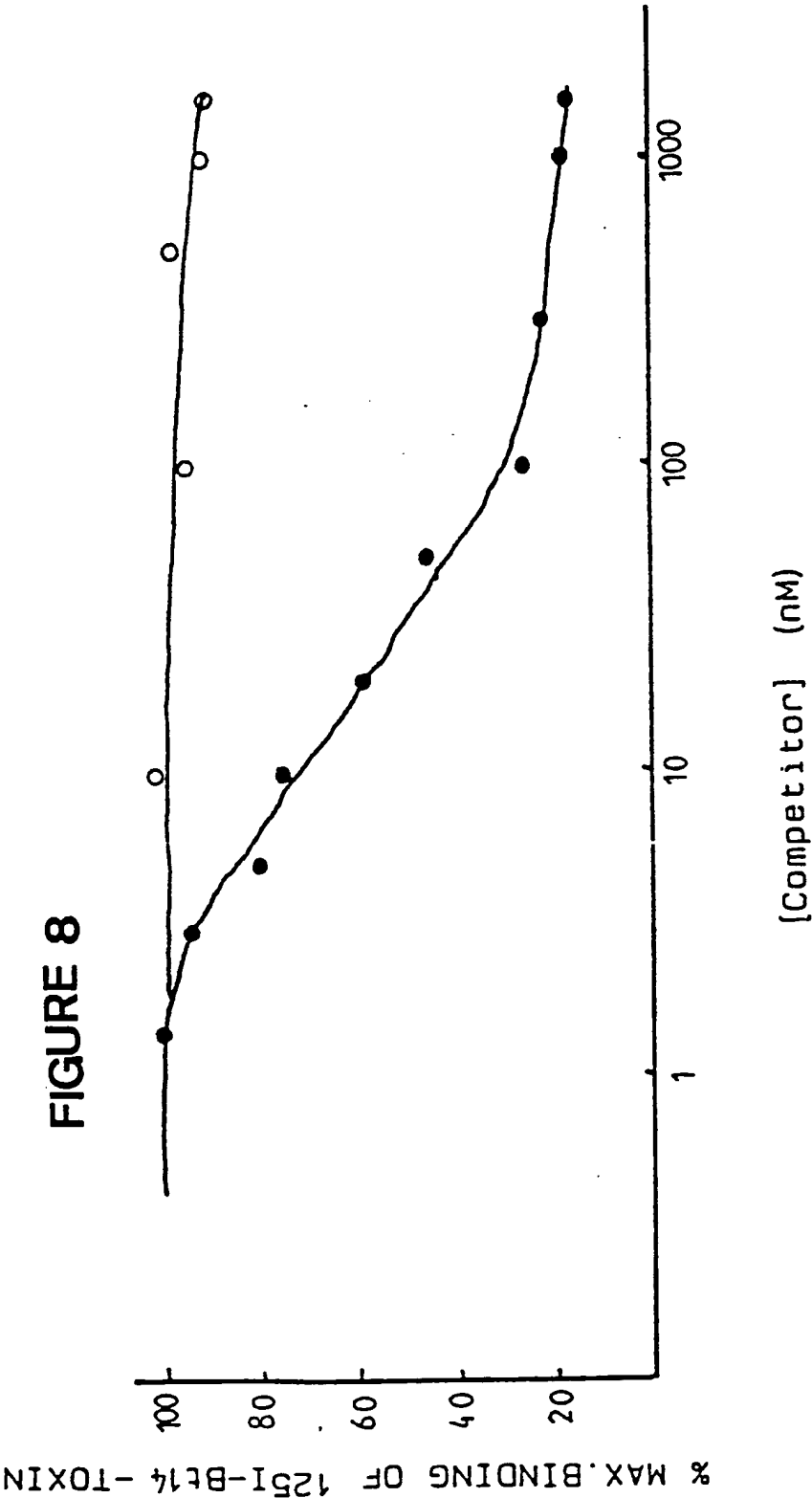


FIGURE 9

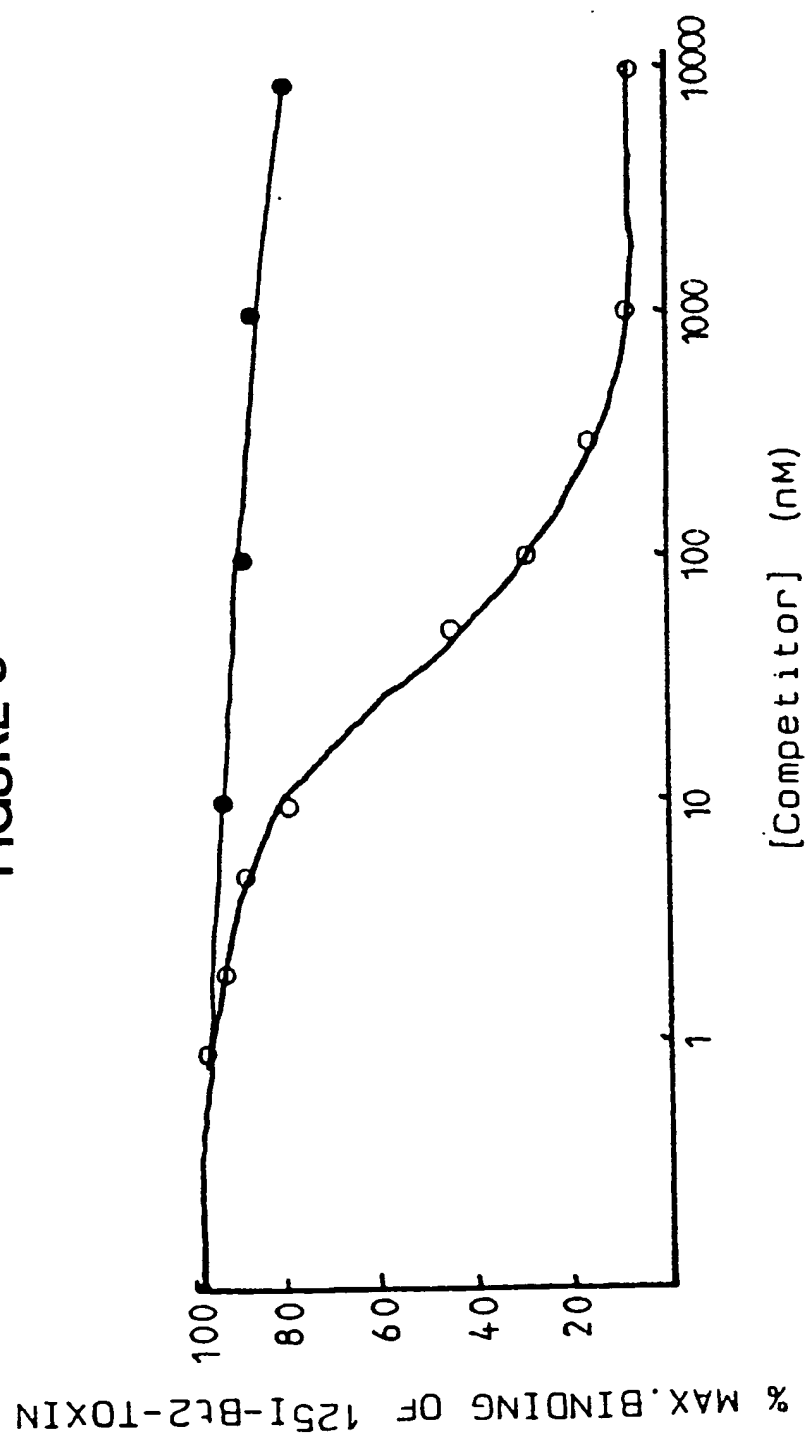


FIGURE 10

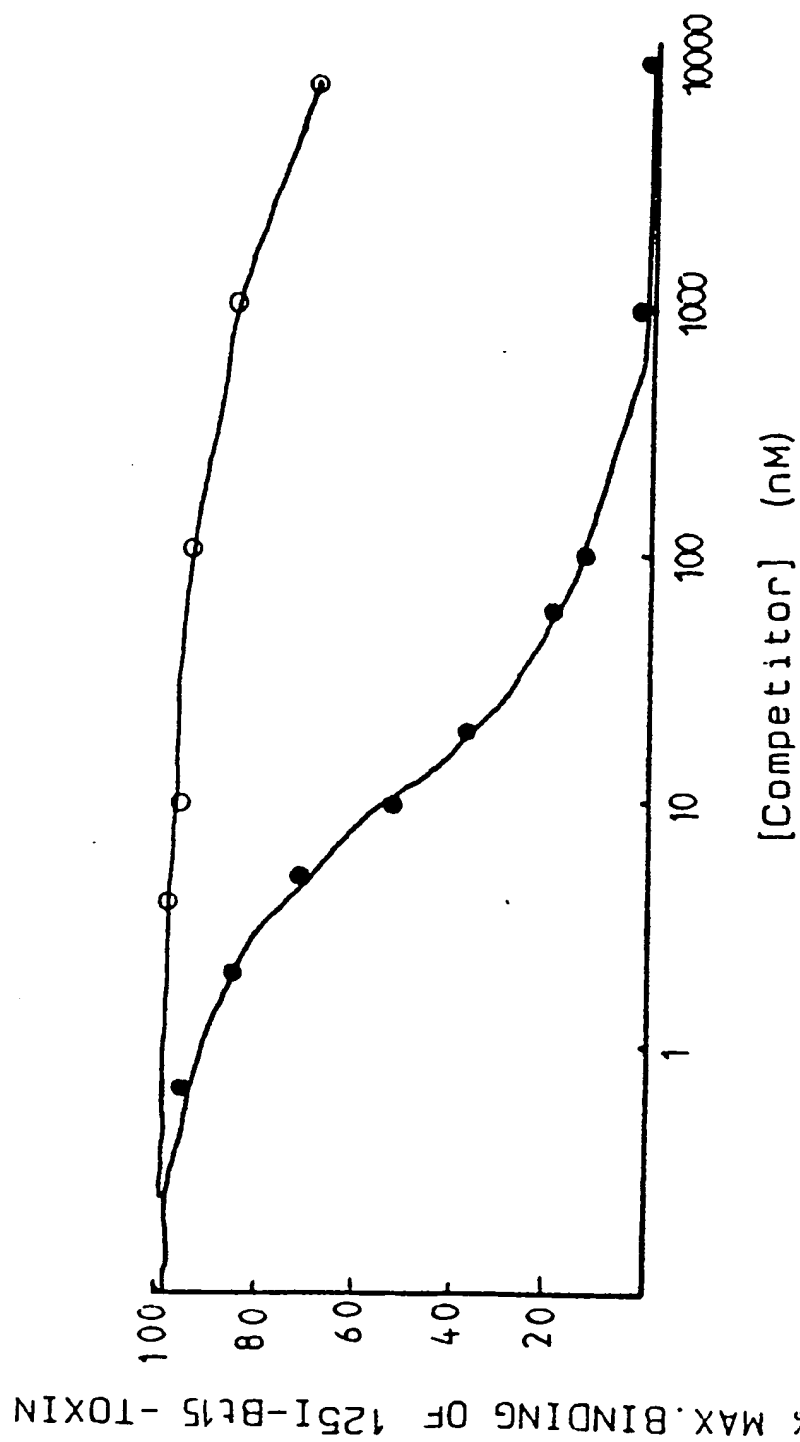


FIGURE 11

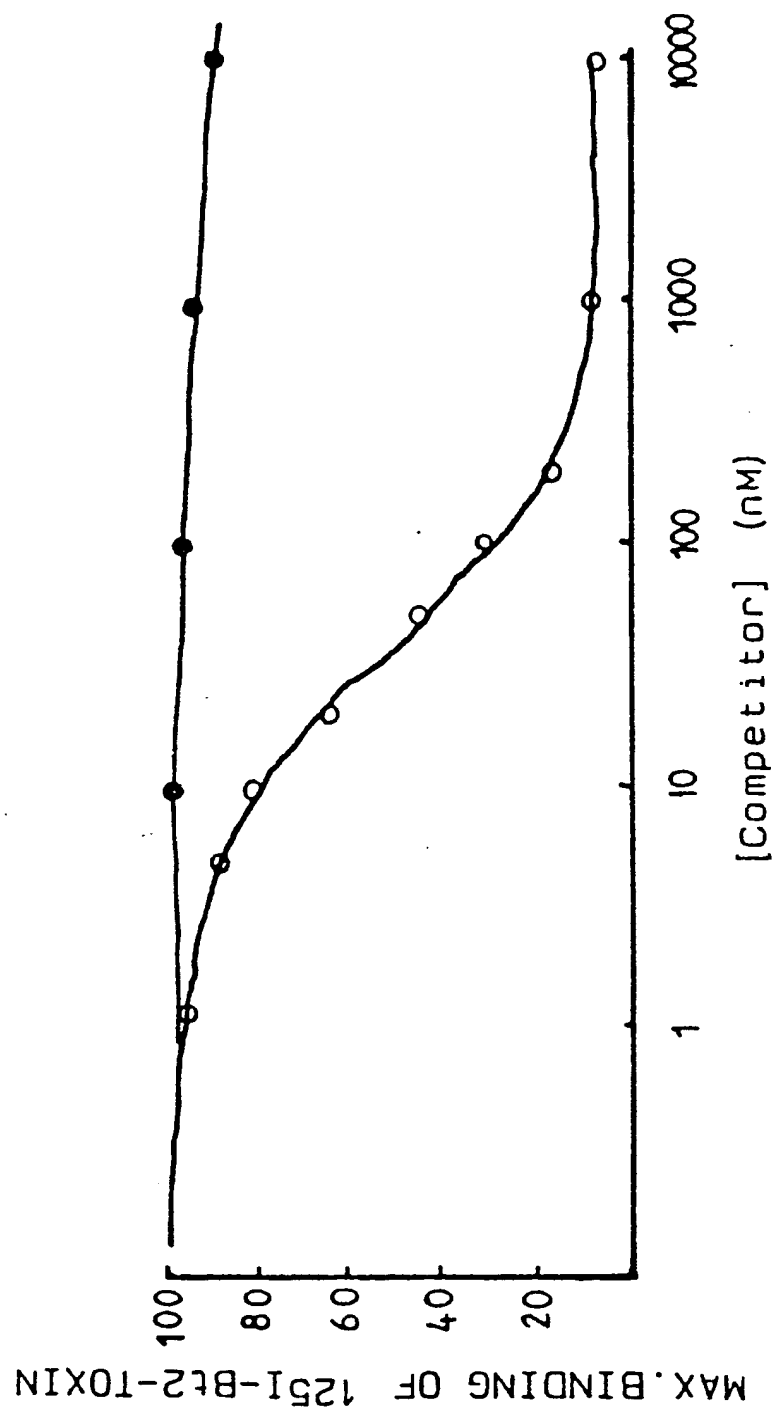


FIGURE 12

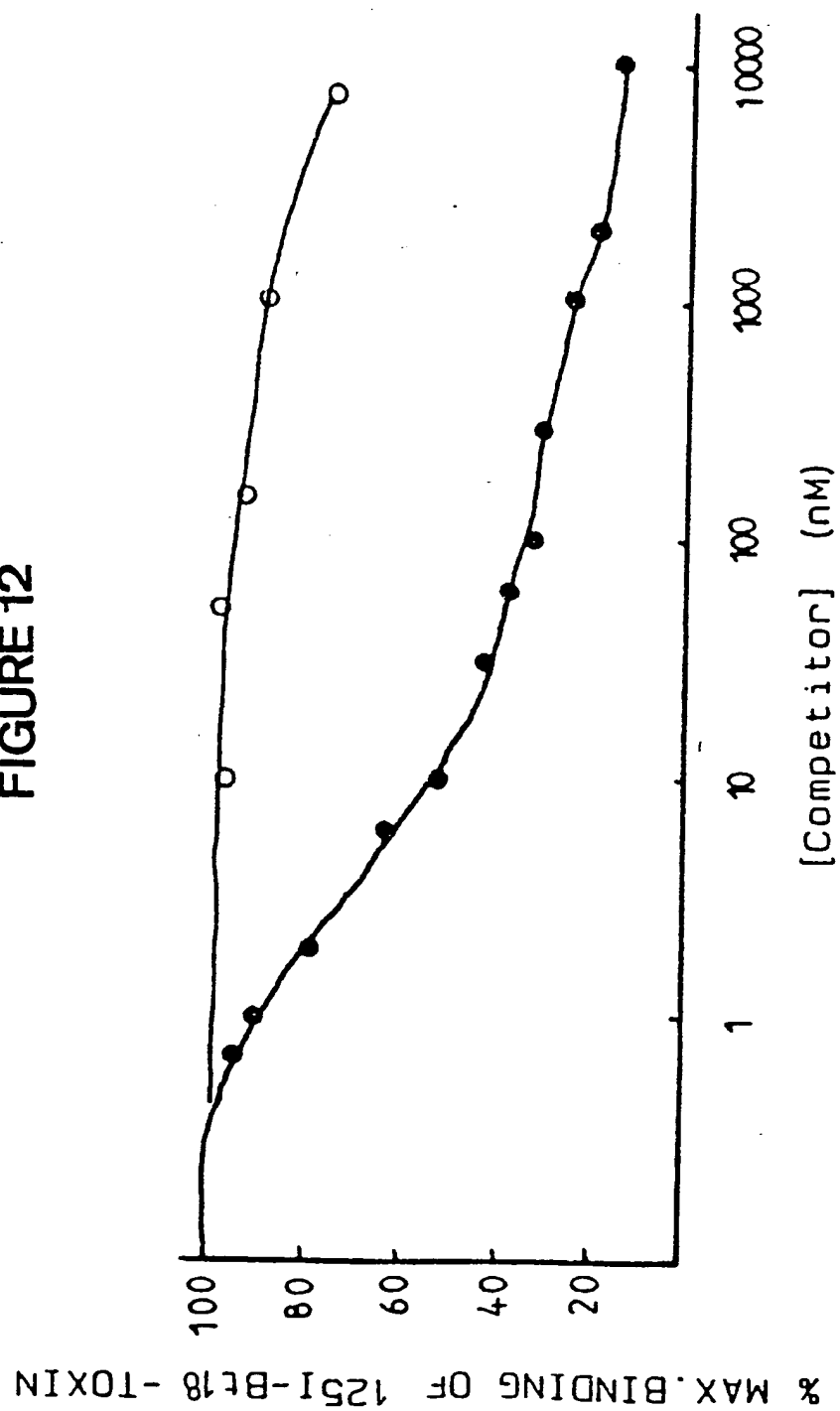


Figure 13

10 20 30 40 50

GGATCTGTTT TAATATAAGG GATTGTGCC CTTCTCGTTA TATTCTTTTA

60 70 80 90 100

TTAGCCCCAA AACTAGTGC AACTAAATAT TTTTATAATT AACTGATTA

110 120 130 140 150

AATACTTTAT TTTTGGGAGT AAGATTTATG CTGAAATGTA ATAAAATTCG

160 170 180 190 200

TTCCATTTTC TGTATTTTCT CATAAAATGT TTCATATGCT TTAAATTGTA

210 220 230 240 250

GTAAAGAAAA ACAGTACAAA CTAAAAGGA CTTTAGTAAT TTAATAAAAA

260 269 278 287

AAGGGGATAG TTT ATG GAA ATA AAT AAT CAA AAC CAA TGT

MET Glu Ile Asn Asn Gln Asn Gln Cys

Figure 13 (Cont. 1)

296	305	314	323	
GTG CCT TAC AAT TGT TTA AGT AAT CCT AAG GAG ATA ATA				
Val Pro Tyr Asn Cys Leu Ser Asn Pro Lys Glu Ile Ile				
332	341	350	359	368
TTA GGC GAG GAA AGG CTA GAA ACA GGG AAT ACT GTA GCA				
Leu Gly Glu Glu Arg Leu Glu Thr Gly Asn Thr Val Ala				
377	386	395	404	
GAC ATT TCA TTA GGG CTT ATT AAT TTT CTA TAT TCT AAT				
Asp Ile Ser Leu Gly Leu Ile Asn Phe Leu Tyr Ser Asn				
413	422	431	440	
TTT GTA CCA GGA GGA GGA TTT ATA GTA GGT TTA CTA GAA				
Phe Val Pro Gly Gly Gly Phe Ile Val Gly Leu Leu Glu				
449	458	467	476	485
TTA ATA TGG GGA TTT ATA GGG CCT TCG CAA TGG GAT ATT				
Leu Ile Trp Gly Phe Ile Gly Pro Ser Gln Trp Asp Ile				
494	503	512	521	
TTT TTA GCT CAA ATT GAG CAA TTG ATT AGT CAA AGA ATA				
Phe Leu Ala Gln Ile Glu Gln Leu Ile Ser Gln Arg Ile				

Figure 13 (Cont. 2)

530	539	548	557
GAA GAA TTT GCT AGG AAT CAG GCA ATT TCA AGA TTG GAG			
Glu Glu Phe Ala Arg Asn Gln Ala Ile Ser Arg Leu Glu			

566	575	584	593	602
GGG CTA AGC AAT CTT TAT AAG GTC TAT GTT AGA GCG TTT				
Gly Leu Ser Asn Leu Tyr Lys Val Tyr Val Arg Ala Phe				

611	620	629	638
AGC GAC TGG GAG AAA GAT CCT ACT AAT CCT GCT TTA AGG			
Ser Asp Trp Glu Lys Asp Pro Thr Asn Pro Ala Leu Arg			

647	656	665	674
GAA GAA ATG CGT ATA CAA TTT AAT GAC ATG AAT AGT GCT			
Glu Glu MET Arg Ile Gln Phe Asn Asp MET Asn Ser Ala			

683	692	701	710	719
CTC ATA ACG GCT ATT CCA CTT TTT AGA GTT CAA AAT TAT				
Leu Ile Thr Ala Ile Pro Leu Phe Arg Val Gln Asn Tyr				

728	737	746	755
GAA GTT GCT CTT TTA TCT GTA TAT GTT CAA GCC GCA AAC			
Glu Val Ala Leu Leu Ser Val Tyr Val Gln Ala Ala Asn			

Figure 13 (Cont. 3)

764	773	782	791	
TTA CAT TTA TCT ATT TTA AGG GAT GTT TCA GTT TTC GGA				
Leu His Leu Ser Ile Leu Arg Asp Val Ser Val Phe Gly				
800	809	818	827	836
GAA AGA TGG GGA TAT GAT ACA GCG ACT ATC AAT AAT CGC				
Glu Arg Trp Gly Tyr Asp Thr Ala Thr Ile Asn Asn Arg				
845	854	863	872	
TAT AGT GAT CTG ACT AGC CTT ATT CAT GTT TAT ACT AAC				
Tyr Ser Asp Leu Thr Ser Leu Ile His Val Tyr Thr Asn				
881	890	899	908	
CAT TGT GTG GAT ACG TAT AAT CAG GGA TTA AGG CGT TTG				
His Cys Val Asp Thr Tyr Asn Gln Gly Leu Arg Arg Leu				
917	926	935	944	953
GAA GGT CGT TTT CTT AGC GAT TGG ATT GTA TAT AAT CGT				
Glu Gly Arg Phe Leu Ser Asp Trp Ile Val Tyr Asn Arg				
962	971	980	989	
TTC CGG AGA CAA TTG ACA ATT TCA GTA TTA GAT ATT GTT				
Phe Arg Arg Gln Leu Thr Ile Ser Val Leu Asp Ile Val				

Figure 13 (Cont. 4)

998	1007	1016	1025	
GCG TTT TTT CCA AAT TAT GAT ATT AGA ACA TAT CCA ATT				
Ala Phe Phe Pro Asn Tyr Asp Ile Arg Thr Tyr Pro Ile				
1034	1043	1052	1061	1070
CAA ACA GCT ACT CAG CTA ACG AGG GAA GTC TAT CTG GAT				
Gln Thr Ala Thr Gln Leu Thr Arg Glu Val Tyr Leu Asp				
1079	1088	1097	1106	
TTA CCT TTT ATT AAT GAA AAT CTT TCT CCT GCA GCA AGC				
Leu Pro Phe Ile Asn Glu Asn Leu Ser Pro Ala Ala Ser				
1115	1124	1133	1142	
TAT CCA ACC TTT TCA GCT GCT GAA AGT GCT ATA ATT AGA				
Tyr Pro Thr Phe Ser Ala Ala Glu Ser Ala Ile Ile Arg				
1151	1160	1169	1178	1187
AGT CCT CAT TTA GTA GAC TTT TTA AAT AGC TTT ACC ATT				
Ser Pro His Leu Val Asp Phe Leu Asn Ser Phe Thr Ile				
1196	1205	1214	1223	
TAT ACA GAT AGT CTG GCA CGT TAT GCA TAT TGG GGA GGG				
Tyr Thr Asp Ser Leu Ala Arg Tyr Ala Tyr Trp Gly Gly				

Figure 13 (Cont. 5)

1232	1241	1250	1259	
CAC TTG GTA AAT TCT TTC CGC ACA GGA ACC ACT ACT AAT				
His Leu Val Asn Ser Phe Arg Thr Gly Thr Thr Thr Asn				
1268	1277	1286	1295	1304
TTG ATA AGA TCC CCT TTA TAT GGA AGG GAA GGA AAT ACA				
Leu Ile Arg Ser Pro Leu Tyr Gly Arg Glu Gly Asn Thr				
1313	1322	1331	1340	
GAG CGC CCC GTA ACT ATT ACC GCA TCA CCT AGC GTA CCA				
Glu Arg Pro Val Thr Ile Thr Ala Ser Pro Ser Val Pro				
1349	1358	1367	1376	
ATA TTT AGA ACA CTT TCA TAT ATT ACA GGC CTT GAC AAT				
Ile Phe Arg Thr Leu Ser Tyr Ile Thr Gly Leu Asp Asn				
1385	1394	1403	1412	1421
TCA AAT CCT GTA GCT GGA ATC GAG GGA GTG GAA TTC CAA				
Ser Asn Pro Val Ala Gly Ile Glu Gly Val Glu Phe Gln				
1430	1439	1448	1457	
AAT ACT ATA AGT AGA AGT ATC TAT CGT AAA AGC GGT CCA				
Asn Thr Ile Ser Arg Ser Ile Tyr Arg Lys Ser Gly Pro				

Figure 13 (Cont. 6)

1466	1475	1484	1493	
ATA GAT TCT TTT AGT GAA TTA CCA CCT CAA GAT GCC AGC				
Ile Asp Ser Phe Ser Glu Leu Pro Pro Gln Asp Ala Ser				
1502	1511	1520	1529	1538
GTA TCT CCT GCA ATT GGG TAT AGT CAC CGT TTA TGC CAT				
Val Ser Pro Ala Ile Gly Tyr Ser His Arg Leu Cys His				
1547	1556	1565	1574	
GCA ACA TTT TTA GAA CGG ATT AGT GGA CCA AGA ATA GCA				
Ala Thr Phe Leu Glu Arg Ile Ser Gly Pro Arg Ile Ala				
1583	1592	1601	1610	
GGC ACC GTA TTT TCT TGG ACA CAC CGT AGT GCC AGC CCT				
Gly Thr Val Phe Ser Trp Thr His Arg Ser Ala Ser Pro				
1619	1628	1637	1646	1655
ACT AAT GAA GTA AGT CCA TCT AGA ATT ACA CAA ATT CCA				
Thr Asn Glu Val Ser Pro Ser Arg Ile Thr Gln Ile Pro				
1664	1673	1682	1691	
TGG GTA AAG GCG CAT ACT CTT GCA TCT GGT GCC TCC GTC				
Trp Val Lys Ala His Thr Leu Ala Ser Gly Ala Ser Val				

Figure 13 (Cont. 7)

1700	1709	1718	1727	
ATT AAA GGT CCT GGA TTT ACA GGT GGA GAT ATT CTG ACT				
Ile Lys Gly Pro Gly Phe Thr Gly Gly Asp Ile Leu Thr				
1736	1745	1754	1763	1772
AGG AAT AGT ATG GGC GAG CTG GGG ACC TTA CGA GTA ACC				
Arg Asn Ser MET Gly Glu Leu Gly Thr Leu Arg Val Thr				
1781	1790	1799	1808	
TTC ACA GGA AGA TTA CCA CAA AGT TAT TAT ATA CGT TTC				
Phe Thr Gly Arg Leu Pro Gln Ser Tyr Tyr Ile Arg Phe				
1817	1826	1835	1844	
CGT TAT GCT TCG GTA GCA AAT AGG AGT GGT ACA TTT AGA				
Arg Tyr Ala Ser Val Ala Asn Arg Ser Gly Thr Phe Arg				
1853	1862	1871	1880	1889
TAT TCA CAG CCA CCT TCG TAT GGA ATT TCA TTT CCA AAA				
Tyr Ser Gln Pro Pro Ser Tyr Gly Ile Ser Phe Pro Lys				
1898	1907	1916	1925	
ACT ATG GAC GCA GGT GAA CCA CTA ACA TCT CGT TCG TTC				
Thr MET Asp Ala Gly Glu Pro Leu Thr Ser Arg Ser Phe				

Figure 13 (Cont. 8)

1934	1943	1952	1961	
GCT CAT ACA ACA CTC TTC ACT CCA ATA ACC TTT TCA CGA				
Ala His Thr Thr Leu Phe Thr Pro Ile Thr Phe Ser Arg				
1970	1979	1988	1997	2006
GCT CAA GAA GAA TTT GAT CTA TAC ATC CAA TCG GGT GTT				
Ala Gln Glu Glu Phe Asp Leu Tyr Ile Gln Ser Gly Val				

2015	2024	2033	2042	
TAT ATA GAT CGA ATT GAA TTT ATA CCG GTT ACT GCA ACA				
Tyr Ile Asp Arg Ile Glu Phe Ile Pro Val Thr Ala Thr				
----->				
2051	2060	2069	2078	
TTT GAG GCA GAA TAT GAT TTA GAA AGA GCG CAA AAG GTG				
Phe Glu Ala Glu Tyr Asp Leu Glu Arg Ala Gln Lys Val				
2087	2096	2105	2114	2123
GTG AAT GCC CTG TTT ACG TCT ACA AAC CAA CTA GGG CTA				
Val Asn Ala Leu Phe Thr Ser Thr Asn Gln Leu Gly Leu				
2132	2141	2150	2159	
AAA ACA GAT GTG ACG GAT TAT CAT ATT GAT CAG GTA TCC				
Lys Thr Asp Val Thr Asp Tyr His Ile Asp Gln Val Ser				

Figure 13 (Cont. 9)

2168	2177	2186	2195	
AAT CTA GTT GCG TGT TTA TCG GAT GAA TTT TGT CTG GAT				
Asn Leu Val Ala Cys Leu Ser Asp Glu Phe Cys Leu Asp				
2204	2213	2222	2231	2240
GAA AAG AGA GAA TTG TCC GAG AAA GTT AAA CAT GCA AAG				
Glu Lys Arg Glu Leu Ser Glu Lys Val Lys His Ala Lys				
2249	2258	2267	2276	
CGA CTC AGT GAT GAG CGG AAT TTA CTT CAA GAT CCA AAC				
Arg Leu Ser Asp Glu Arg Asn Leu Leu Gln Asp Pro Asn				
2285	2294	2303	2312	
TTC AGA GGG ATC AAT AGG CAA CCA GAC CGT GGC TGG AGA				
Phe Arg Gly Ile Asn Arg Gln Pro Asp Arg Gly Trp Arg				
2321	2330	2339	2348	2357
GGA AGT ACG GAT ATT ACT ATC CAA GGA GGA GAT GAC GTA				
Gly Ser Thr Asp Ile Thr Ile Gln Gly Gly Asp Asp Val				
2366	2375	2384	2393	
TTC AAA GAG AAT TAC GTT ACG CTA CCG GGT ACC TTT GAT				
Phe Lys Glu Asn Tyr Val Thr Leu Pro Gly Thr Phe Asp				

Figure 13 (Cont. 10)

2402	2411	2420	2429	
GAG TGC TAT CCA ACG TAT TTA TAT CAA AAA ATA GAT GAG				
Glu Cys Tyr Pro Thr Tyr Leu Tyr Gln Lys Ile Asp Glu				
2438	2447	2456	2465	2474
TCG AAA TTA AAA GCC TAT ACC CGT TAT CAA TTA AGA GGG				
Ser Lys Leu Lys Ala Tyr Thr Arg Tyr Gln Leu Arg Gly				
2483	2492	2501	2510	
TAT ATC GAA GAT AGT CAA GAC TTA GAA ATC TAT TTA ATT				
Tyr Ile Glu Asp Ser Gln Asp Leu Glu Ile Tyr Leu Ile				
2519	2528	2537	2546	
CGT TAC AAT GCA AAA CAC GAA ATA GTA AAT GTA CCA GGT				
Arg Tyr Asn Ala Lys His Glu Ile Val Asn Val Pro Gly				
2555	2564	2573	2582	2591
ACA GGA AGT TTA TGG CCT CTT TCT GTA GAA AAT CAA ATT				
Thr Gly Ser Leu Trp Pro Leu Ser Val Glu Asn Gln Ile				
2600	2609	2618	2627	
GGA CCT TGT GGA GAA CCG AAT CGA TGC GCG CCA CAC CTT				
Gly Pro Cys Gly Glu Pro Asn Arg Cys Ala Pro His Leu				

Figure 13 (Cont. 11)

2636	2645	2654	2663	
GAA TGG AAT CCT GAT TTA CAC TGT TCC TGC AGA GAC GGG				
Glu Trp Asn Pro Asp Leu His Cys Ser Cys Arg Asp Gly				
2672	2681	2690	2699	2708
GAA AAA TGT GCA CAT CAT TCT CAT CAT TTC TCT TTG GAC				
Glu Lys Cys Ala His His Ser His His Phe Ser Leu Asp				
2717	2726	2735	2744	
ATT GAT GTT GGA TGT ACA GAC TTA AAT GAG GAC TTA GGT				
Ile Asp Val Gly Cys Thr Asp Leu Asn Glu Asp Leu Gly				
2753	2762	2771	2780	
GTA TGG GTG ATA TTC AAG ATT AAG ACG CAA GAT GGC CAC				
Val Trp Val Ile Phe Lys Ile Lys Thr Gln Asp Gly His				
2789	2798	2807	2816	2825
GCA CGA CTA GGG AAT CTA GAG TTT CTC GAA GAG AAA CCA				
Ala Arg Leu Gly Asn Leu Glu Phe Leu Glu Glu Lys Pro				
2834	2843	2852	2861	
TTA TTA GGA GAA GCA CTA GCT CGT GTG AAA AGA GCG GAG				
Leu Leu Gly Glu Ala Leu Ala Arg Val Lys Arg Ala Glu				

Figure 13 (Cont. 12)

2870	2879	2888	2897	
AAA AAA TGG AGA GAC AAA CGC GAA ACA TTA CAA TTG GAA				
Lys Lys Trp Arg Asp Lys Arg Glu Thr Leu Gln Leu Glu				
2906	2915	2924	2933	2942
ACA ACT ATC GTT TAT AAA GAG GCA AAA GAA TCT GTA GAT				
Thr Thr Ile Val Tyr Lys Glu Ala Lys Glu Ser Val Asp				
2951	2960	2969	2978	
GCT TTA TTT GTA AAC TCT CAA TAT GAT AGA TTA CAA GCG				
Ala Leu Phe Val Asn Ser Gln Tyr Asp Arg Leu Gln Ala				
2987	2996	3005	3014	
GAT ACG AAC ATC GCG ATG ATT CAT GCG GCA GAT AAA CGC				
Asp Thr Asn Ile Ala MET Ile His Ala Ala Asp Lys Arg				
3023	3032	3041	3050	3059
GTT CAT AGA ATT CGA GAA GCG TAT CTG CCG GAG CTG TCT				
Val His Arg Ile Arg Glu Ala Tyr Leu Pro Glu Leu Ser				
3068	3077	3086	3095	
GTG ATT CCG GGT GTC AAT GCG GCT ATT TTT GAA GAA TTA				
Val Ile Pro Gly Val Asn Ala Ala Ile Phe Glu Glu Leu				

Figure 13 (Cont. 13)

3104	3113	3122	3131	
GAA GAG CGT ATT TTC ACT GCA TTT TCC CTA TAT GAT GCG				
Glu Glu Arg Ile Phe Thr Ala Phe Ser Leu Tyr Asp Ala				
3140	3149	3158	3167	3176
AGA AAT ATT ATT AAA AAT GGC GAT TTC AAT AAT GGC TTA				
Arg Asn Ile Ile Lys Asn Gly Asp Phe Asn Asn Gly Leu				
3185	3194	3203	3212	
TTA TGC TGG AAC GTG AAA GGG CAT GTA GAG GTA GAA GAA				
Leu Cys Trp Asn Val Lys Gly His Val Glu Val Glu Glu				
3221	3230	3239	3248	
CAA AAC AAT CAC CGT TCA GTC CTG GTT ATC CCA GAA TGG				
Gln Asn Asn His Arg Ser Val Leu Val Ile Pro Glu Trp				
3257	3266	3275	3284	3293
GAG GCA GAA GTG TCA CAA GAG GTT CGT GTC TGT CCA GGT				
Glu Ala Glu Val Ser Gln Glu Val Arg Val Cys Pro Gly				
3302	3311	3320	3329	
CGT GGC TAT ATC CTT CGT GTT ACA GCG TAC AAA GAG GGA				
Arg Gly Tyr Ile Leu Arg Val Thr Ala Tyr Lys Glu Gly				

Figure 13 (Cont. 14)

3338	3347	3356	3365	
TAT GGA GAA GGT TGC GTA ACG ATC CAT GAG ATC GAG AAC				
Tyr Gly Glu Gly Cys Val Thr Ile His Glu Ile Glu Asn				
3374	3383	3392	3401	3410
AAT ACA GAC GAA CTG AAA TTC AAC AAC TGT GTA GAA GAG				
Asn Thr Asp Glu Leu Lys Phe Asn Asn Cys Val Glu Glu				
3419	3428	3437	3446	
GAA GTA TAT CCA AAC AAC ACG GTA ACG TGT ATT AAT TAT				
Glu Val Tyr Pro Asn Asn Thr Val Thr Cys Ile Asn Tyr				
3455	3464	3473	3482	
ACT GCG ACT CAA GAA GAA TAT GAG GGT ACG TAC ACT TCT				
Thr Ala Thr Gln Glu Glu Tyr Glu Gly Thr Tyr Thr Ser				
3491	3500	3509	3518	3527
CGT AAT CGA GGA TAT GAC GAA GCC TAT GGT AAT AAC CCT				
Arg Asn Arg Gly Tyr Asp Glu Ala Tyr Gly Asn Asn Pro				
3536	3545	3554	3563	
TCC GTA CCA GCT GAT TAT GCG TCA GTC TAT GAA GAA AAA				
Ser Val Pro Ala Asp Tyr Ala Ser Val Tyr Glu Glu Lys				

Figure 13 (Cont. 15)

3572	3581	3590	3599	
TCG TAT ACA GAT AGA CGA AGA GAG AAT CCT TGT GAA TCT				
Ser Tyr Thr Asp Arg Arg Arg Glu Asn Pro Cys Glu Ser				
3608	3617	3626	3635	3644
AAC AGA GGA TAT GGA GAT TAC ACA CCA CTA CCA GCT GGT				
Asn Arg Gly Tyr Gly Asp Tyr Thr Pro Leu Pro Ala Gly				
3653	3662	3671	3680	
TAT GTA ACA AAG GAA TTA GAG TAC TTC CCA GAG ACC GAT				
Tyr Val Thr Lys Glu Leu Glu Tyr Phe Pro Glu Thr Asp				
3689	3698	3707	3716	
AAG GTA TGG ATT GAG ATT GGA GAA ACA GAA GGA ACA TTC				
Lys Val Trp Ile Glu Ile Gly Glu Thr Glu Gly Thr Phe				
3725	3734	3743	3752	3761
ATC GTG GAC AGC GTG GAA TTA CTC CTT ATG GAG GAA TAG				
Ile Val Asp Ser Val Glu Leu Leu Leu MET Glu Glu				

29/55

Figure 13 (Cont. 16)

3771 3781 3791 3801 3811
GACCATCCGA GTATAGCAGT TTAATAAATA TTAATTAAAA TAGTAGTCTA

3821 3831 3841 3851 3861
ACTTCCGTTC CAATTAAATA AGTAAATTAC AGTTGTAAAA AAAAACGAAC

3871 3881 3891 3901
ATTACTCTTC AAAGAGCGAT GTCCGTTTTT TATATGGTGT GT

Figure 14

10 20 30 40 50
AATAGAATCT CAAATCTCGA TGA CTGCTTA GTCTTTTAA TACTGTCTAC

60 70 80 90 100
TTGACAGGGG TAGGAACATA ATCGGTCAAT TTAAATATG GGGCATATAT

110 120 130 140 150
TGATATTTTA TAAATTTGT TACGTTTTTT GTATTTTTC ATAAGATGTG

160 170 180 190 200
TCATATGTAT TAAATCGTGG TAATGAAAAA CAGTATCAA CTATCAGAAC

210 220 230 239
TTTGGTAGTT TAATAAAAAA ACGGAGGTAT TTT ATG GAG GAA
----- MET Glu Glu

248 257 266 275
AAT AAT CAA AAT CAA TGC ATA CCT TAC AAT TGT TTA AGT
Asn Asn Gln Asn Gln Cys Ile Pro Tyr Asn Cys Leu Ser

284 293 302 311 320
AAT CCT GAA GAA GTA CTT TTG GAT GGA GAA CGG ATA TCA
Asn Pro Glu Glu Val Leu Leu Asp Gly Glu Arg Ile Ser

Figure 14 (Cont. 1)

329 338 347 356
ACT GGT AAT TCA TCA ATT GAT ATT TCT CTG TCA CTT GTT
Thr Gly Asn Ser Ser Ile Asp Ile Ser Leu Ser Leu Val

365 374 383 392
CAG TTT CTG GTA TCT AAC TTT GTA CCA GGG GGA GGA TTT
Gln Phe Leu Val Ser Asn Phe Val Pro Gly Gly Gly Phe

401 410 419 428 437
TTA GTT GGA TTA ATA GAT TTT GTA TGG GGA ATA GTT GGC
Leu Val Gly Leu Ile Asp Phe Val Trp Gly Ile Val Gly

446 455 464 473
CCT TCT CAA TGG GAT GCA TTT CTA GTA CAA ATT GAA CAA
Pro Ser Gln Trp Asp Ala Phe Leu Val Gln Ile Glu Gln

482 491 500 509
TTA ATT AAT GAA AGA ATA GCT GAA TTT GCT AGG AAT GCT
Leu Ile Asn Glu Arg Ile Ala Glu Phe Ala Arg Asn Ala

518 527 536 545 554
GCT ATT GCT AAT TTA GAA GGA TTA GGA AAC AAT TTC AAT
Ala Ile Ala Asn Leu Glu Gly Leu Gly Asn Asn Phe Asn

Figure 14 (Cont. 2)

563	572	581	590
ATA TAT GTG GAA GCA TTT AAA GAA TGG GAA GAA GAT CCT			
Ile Tyr Val Glu Ala Phe Lys Glu Trp Glu Glu Asp Pro			

599	608	617	626
AAT AAT CCA GAA ACC AGG ACC AGA GTA ATT GAT CGC TTT			
Asn Asn Pro Glu Thr Arg Thr Arg Val Ile Asp Arg Phe			

635	644	653	662	671
CGT ATA CTT GAT GGG CTA CTT GAA AGG GAC ATT CCT TCG				
Arg Ile Leu Asp Gly Leu Leu Glu Arg Asp Ile Pro Ser				

680	689	698	707
TTT CGA ATT TCT GGA TTT GAA GTA CCC CTT TTA TCC GTT			
Phe Arg Ile Ser Gly Phe Glu Val Pro Leu Leu Ser Val			

716	725	734	743
TAT GCT CAA GCG GCC AAT CTG CAT CTA GCT ATA TTA AGA			
Tyr Ala Gln Ala Ala Asn Leu His Leu Ala Ile Leu Arg			

752	761	770	779	788
GAT TCT GTA ATT TTT GGA GAA AGA TGG GGA TTG ACA ACG				
Asp Ser Val Ile Phe Gly Glu Arg Trp Gly Leu Thr Thr				

Figure 14 (Cont. 3)

797	806	815	824
ATA AAT GTC AAT GAA AAC TAT AAT AGA CTA ATT AGG CAT			
Ile Asn Val Asn Glu Asn Tyr Asn Arg Leu Ile Arg His			

833	842	851	860
ATT GAT GAA TAT GCT GAT CAC TGT GCA AAT ACG TAT AAT			
Ile Asp Glu Tyr Ala Asp His Cys Ala Asn Thr Tyr Asn			

869	878	887	896	905
CGG GGA TTA AAT AAT TTA CCG AAA TCT ACG TAT CAA GAT				
Arg Gly Leu Asn Asn Leu Pro Lys Ser Thr Tyr Gln Asp				

914	923	932	941
TGG ATA ACA TAT AAT CGA TTA CCG AGA GAC TTA ACA TTG			
Trp Ile Thr Tyr Asn Arg Leu Arg Arg Asp Leu Thr Leu			

950	959	968	977
ACT GTA TTA GAT ATC GCC GCT TTC TTT CCA AAC TAT GAC			
Thr Val Leu Asp Ile Ala Ala Phe Phe Pro Asn Tyr Asp			

986	995	1004	1013	1022
AAT AGG AGA TAT CCA ATT CAG CCA GTT GGT CAA CTA ACA				
Asn Arg Arg Tyr Pro Ile Gln Pro Val Gly Gln Leu Thr				

Figure 14 (Cont. 4)

1031	1040	1049	1058	
AGG GAA GTT TAT	ACG GAC CCA TTA	ATT AAT TTT AAT	CCA	
Arg Glu Val Tyr	Thr Asp Pro Leu	Ile Asn Phe Asn	Pro	
1067	1076	1085	1094	
CAG TTA CAG TCT	GTA GCT CAA TTA	CCT ACT TTT AAC	GTT	
Gln Leu Gln Ser	Val Ala Gln Leu	Pro Thr Phe Asn	Val	
1103	1112	1121	1130	1139
ATG GAG AGC AGC	GCA ATT AGA AAT	CCT CAT TTA TTT	GAT	
MET Glu Ser Ser	Ala Ile Arg Asn	Pro His Leu Phe	Asp	
1148	1157	1166	1175	
ATA TTG AAT AAT	CTT ACA ATC TTT	ACG GAT TGG TTT	AGT	
Ile Leu Asn Asn	Leu Thr Ile Phe	Thr Asp Trp Phe	Ser	
1184	1193	1202	1211	
GTT GGA CGC AAT	TTT TAT TGG GGA	GGA CAT CGA GTA	ATA	
Val Gly Arg Asn	Phe Tyr Trp Gly	Gly His Arg Val	Ile	
1220	1229	1238	1247	1256
TCT AGC CTT ATA	GGA GGT GGT AAC	ATA ACA TCT CCT	ATA	
Ser Ser Leu Ile	Gly Gly Gly Asn	Ile Thr Ser Pro	Ile	

Figure 14 (Cont. 5)

1265	1274	1283	1292	
TAT GGA AGA GAG GCG AAC CAG GAG CCT CCA AGA TCC TTT				
Tyr Gly Arg Glu Ala Asn Gln Glu Pro Pro Arg Ser Phe				
1301	1310	1319	1328	
ACT TTT AAT GGA CCG GTA TTT AGG ACT TTA TCA AAT CCT				
Thr Phe Asn Gly Pro Val Phe Arg Thr Leu Ser Asn Pro				
1337	1346	1355	1364	1373
ACT TTA CGA TTA TTA CAG CAA CCT TGG CCA GCG CCA CCA				
Thr Leu Arg Leu Leu Gln Gln Pro Trp Pro Ala Pro Pro				
1382	1391	1400	1409	
TTT AAT TTA CGT GGT GTT GAA GGA GTA GAA TTT TCT ACA				
Phe Asn Leu Arg Gly Val Glu Gly Val Glu Phe Ser Thr				
1418	1427	1436	1445	
CCT ACA AAT AGC TTT ACG TAT CGA GGA AGA GGT ACG GTT				
Pro Thr Asn Ser Phe Thr Tyr Arg Gly Arg Gly Thr Val				
1454	1463	1472	1481	1490
GAT TCT TTA ACT GAA TTA CCG CCT GAG GAT AAT AGT GTG				
Asp Ser Leu Thr Glu Leu Pro Pro Glu Asp Asn Ser Val				

Figure 14 (Cont. 6)

1499	1508	1517	1526	
CCA CCT CGC GAA GGA TAT AGT CAT CGT TTA TGT CAT GCA				
Pro Pro Arg Glu Gly Tyr Ser His Arg Leu Cys His Ala				
1535	1544	1553	1562	
ACT TTT GTT CAA AGA TCT GGA ACA CCT TTT TTA ACA ACT				
Thr Phe Val Gln Arg Ser Gly Thr Pro Phe Leu Thr Thr				
1571	1580	1589	1598	1607
GGT GTA GTA TTT TCT TGG ACG CAT CGT AGT GCA ACT CTT				
Gly Val Val Phe Ser Trp Thr His Arg Ser Ala Thr Leu				
1616	1625	1634	1643	
ACA AAT ACA ATT GAT CCA GAG AGA ATT AAT CAA ATA CCT				
Thr Asn Thr Ile Asp Pro Glu Arg Ile Asn Gln Ile Pro				
1652	1661	1670	1679	
TTA GTG AAA GGA TTT AGA GTT TGG GGG GGC ACC TCT GTC				
Leu Val Lys Gly Phe Arg Val Trp Gly Gly Thr Ser Val				
1688	1697	1706	1715	1724
ATT ACA GGA CCA GGA TTT ACA GGA GGG GAT ATC CTT CGA				
Ile Thr Gly Pro Gly Phe Thr Gly Gly Asp Ile Leu Arg				

Figure 14 (Cont. 7)

1733	1742	1751	1760	
AGA AAT ACC TTT GGT GAT TTT GTA TCT CTA CAA GTC AAT				
Arg Asn Thr Phe Gly Asp Phe Val Ser Leu Gln Val Asn				
1769	1778	1787	1796	
ATT AAT TCA CCA ATT ACC CAA AGA TAC CGT TTA AGA TTT				
Ile Asn Ser Pro Ile Thr Gln Arg Tyr Arg Leu Arg Phe				
1805	1814	1823	1832	1841
CGT TAC GCT TCC AGT AGG GAT GCA CGA GTT ATA GTA TTA				
Arg Tyr Ala Ser Ser Arg Asp Ala Arg Val Ile Val Leu				
1850	1859	1868	1877	
ACA GGA GCG GCA TCC ACA GGA GTG GGA GGC CAA GTT AGT				
Thr Gly Ala Ala Ser Thr Gly Val Gly Gly Gln Val Ser				
1886	1895	1904	1913	
GTA AAT ATG CCT CTT CAG AAA ACT ATG GAA ATA GGG GAG				
Val Asn MET Pro Leu Gln Lys Thr MET Glu Ile Gly Glu				
1922	1931	1940	1949	1958
AAC TTA ACA TCT AGA ACA TTT AGA TAT ACC GAT TTT AGT				
Asn Leu Thr Ser Arg Thr Phe Arg Tyr Thr Asp Phe Ser				

Figure 14 (Cont. 8)

1967	1976	1985	1994	
AAT CCT TTT TCA TTT AGA GCT AAT CCA GAT ATA ATT GGG				
Asn Pro Phe Ser Phe Arg Ala Asn Pro Asp Ile Ile Gly				
2003	2012	2021	2030	
ATA AGT GAA CAA CCT CTA TTT GGT GCA GGT TCT ATT AGT				
Ile Ser Glu Gln Pro Leu Phe Gly Ala Gly Ser Ile Ser				
2039	2048	2057	2066	2075
AGC GGT GAA CTT TAT ATA GAT AAA ATT GAA ATT ATT CTA				
Ser Gly Glu Leu Tyr Ile Asp Lys Ile Glu Ile Ile Leu				
2084	2093	2102	2111	
GCA GAT GCA ACA TTT GAA GCA GAA TCT GAT TTA GAA AGA				
Ala Asp Ala Thr Phe Glu Ala Glu Ser Asp Leu Glu Arg				
2120	2129	2138	2147	
GCA CAA AAG GCG GTG AAT GCC CTG TTT ACT TCT TCC AAT				
Ala Gln Lys Ala Val Asn Ala Leu Phe Thr Ser Ser Asn				
2156	2165	2174	2183	2192
CAA ATC GGG TTA AAA ACC GAT GTG ACG GAT TAT CAT ATT				
Gln Ile Gly Leu Lys Thr Asp Val Thr Asp Tyr His Ile				

Figure 14 (Cont. 9)

2201	2210	2219	2228	
GAT CAA GTA TCC AAT TTA GTG GAT TGT TTA TCA GAT GAA				
Asp Gln Val Ser Asn Leu Val Asp Cys Leu Ser Asp Glu				
2237	2246	2255	2264	
TTT TGT CTG GAT GAA AAG CGA GAA TTG TCC GAG AAA GTC				
Phe Cys Leu Asp Glu Lys Arg Glu Leu Ser Glu Lys Val				
2273	2282	2291	2300	2309
AAA CAT GCG AAG CGA CTC AGT GAT GAG CGG AAT TTA CTT				
Lys His Ala Lys Arg Leu Ser Asp Glu Arg Asn Leu Leu				
2318	2327	2336	2345	
CAA GAT CCA AAC TTC AGA GGG ATC AAT AGA CAA CCA GAC				
Gln Asp Pro Asn Phe Arg Gly Ile Asn Arg Gln Pro Asp				
2354	2363	2372	2381	
CGT GGC TGG AGA GGA AGT ACA GAT ATT ACC ATC CAA GGA				
Arg Gly Trp Arg Gly Ser Thr Asp Ile Thr Ile Gln Gly				
2390	2399	2408	2417	2426
GGA GAT GAC GTA TTC AAA GAG AAT TAC GTC ACA CTA CCG				
Gly Asp Asp Val Phe Lys Glu Asn Tyr Val Thr Leu Pro				

Figure 14 (Cont. 10)

2435	2444	2453	2462	
GGT ACC GTT GAT GAG TGC TAT CCA ACG TAT TTA TAT CAG				
Gly Thr Val Asp Glu Cys Tyr Pro Thr Tyr Leu Tyr Gln				
2471	2480	2489	2498	
AAA ATA GAT GAG TCG AAA TTA AAA GCT TAT ACC CGT TAT				
Lys Ile Asp Glu Ser Lys Leu Lys Ala Tyr Thr Arg Tyr				
2507	2516	2525	2534	2543
GAA TTA AGA GGG TAT ATC GAA GAT AGT CAA GAC TTA GAA				
Glu Leu Arg Gly Tyr Ile Glu Asp Ser Gln Asp Leu Glu				
2552	2561	2570	2579	
ATC TAT TTG ATC CGT TAC AAT GCA AAA CAC GAA ATA GTA				
Ile Tyr Leu Ile Arg Tyr Asn Ala Lys His Glu Ile Val				
2588	2597	2606	2615	
AAT GTG CCA GGC ACG GGT TCC TTA TGG CCG CTT TCA GCC				
Asn Val Pro Gly Thr Gly Ser Leu Trp Pro Leu Ser Ala				
2624	2633	2642	2651	2660
CAA AGT CCA ATC GGA AAG TGT GGA GAA CCG AAT CGA TGC				
Gln Ser Pro Ile Gly Lys Cys Gly Glu Pro Asn Arg Cys				

Figure 14 (Cont. 11)

2669	2678	2687	2696	
GCG CCA CAC CTT GAA TGG AAT CCT GAT CTA GAT TGT TCC				
Ala Pro His Leu Glu Trp Asn Pro Asp Leu Asp Cys Ser				
2705	2714	2723	2732	
TGC AGA GAC GGG GAA AAA TGT GCA CAT CAT TCC CAT CAT				
Cys Arg Asp Gly Glu Lys Cys Ala His His Ser His His				
2741	2750	2759	2768	2777
TTC ACC TTG GAT ATT GAT GTT GGA TGT ACA GAC TTA AAT				
Phe Thr Leu Asp Ile Asp Val Gly Cys Thr Asp Leu Asn				
2786	2795	2804	2813	
GAG GAC TTA GGT GTA TGG GTG ATA TTC AAG ATT AAG ACG				
Glu Asp Leu Gly Val Trp Val Ile Phe Lys Ile Lys Thr				
2822	2831	2840	2849	
CAA GAT GGC CAT GCA AGA CTA GGG AAT CTA GAG TTT CTC				
Gln Asp Gly His Ala Arg Leu Gly Asn Leu Glu Phe Leu				
2858	2867	2876	2885	2894
GAA GAG AAA CCA TTA TTA GGG GAA GCA CTA GCT CGT GTG				
Glu Glu Lys Pro Leu Leu Gly Glu Ala Leu Ala Arg Val				

Figure 14 (Cont. 12)

2903	2912	2921	2930	
AAA AGA GCG GAG AAG AAG TGG AGA GAC AAA CGA GAG AAA				
Lys Arg Ala Glu Lys Lys Trp Arg Asp Lys Arg Glu Lys				
2939	2948	2957	2966	
CTG CAG TTG GAA ACA AAT ATT GTT TAT AAA GAG GCA AAA				
Leu Gln Leu Glu Thr Asn Ile Val Tyr Lys Glu Ala Lys				
2975	2984	2993	3002	3011
GAA TCT GTA GAT GCT TTA TTT GTA AAC TCT CAA TAT GAT				
Glu Ser Val Asp Ala Leu Phe Val Asn Ser Gln Tyr Asp				
3020	3029	3038	3047	
AGA TTA CAA GTG GAT ACG AAC ATC GCG ATG ATT CAT GCG				
Arg Leu Gln Val Asp Thr Asn Ile Ala MET Ile His Ala				
3056	3065	3074	3083	
GCA GAT AAA CGC GTT CAT AGA ATC CGG GAA GCG TAT CTG				
Ala Asp Lys Arg Val His Arg Ile Arg Glu Ala Tyr Leu				
3092	3101	3110	3119	3128
CCA GAG TTG TCT GTG ATT CCA GGT GTC AAT GCG GCC ATT				
Pro Glu Leu Ser Val Ile Pro Gly Val Asn Ala Ala Ile				

Figure 14 (Cont. 13)

3137	3146	3155	3164	
TTC GAA GAA TTA GAG GGA CGT ATT TTT ACA GCG TAT TCC				
Phe Glu Glu Leu Glu Gly Arg Ile Phe Thr Ala Tyr Ser				
3173	3182	3191	3200	
TTA TAT GAT GCG AGA AAT GTC ATT AAA AAT GGC GAT TTC				
Leu Tyr Asp Ala Arg Asn Val Ile Lys Asn Gly Asp Phe				
3209	3218	3227	3236	3245
AAT AAT GGC TTA TTA TGC TGG AAC GTG AAA GGT CAT GTA				
Asn Asn Gly Leu Leu Cys Trp Asn Val Lys Gly His Val				
3254	3263	3272	3281	
GAT GTA GAA GAG CAA AAC AAC CAC CGT TCG GTC CTT GTT				
Asp Val Glu Glu Gln Asn Asn His Arg Ser Val Leu Val				
3290	3299	3308	3317	
ATC CCA GAA TGG GAG GCA GAA GTG TCA CAA GAG GTT CGT				
Ile Pro Glu Trp Glu Ala Glu Val Ser Gln Glu Val Arg				
3326	3335	3344	3353	3362
GTC TGT CCA GGT CGT GGC TAT ATC CTT CGT GTC ACA GCA				
Val Cys Pro Gly Arg Gly Tyr Ile Leu Arg Val Thr Ala				

Figure 14 (Cont. 14)

3371	3380	3389	3398
TAT AAA GAG GGA	TAT GGA GAG GGC	TGC GTA ACG ATC	CAT
Tyr Lys Glu Gly	Tyr Gly Glu Gly	Cys Val Thr Ile	His

3407	3416	3425	3434
GAG ATC GAA GAC	AAT ACA GAC GAA	CTG AAA TTC AGC	AAC
Glu Ile Glu Asp	Asn Thr Asp Glu	Leu Lys Phe Ser	Asn

3443	3452	3461	3470	3479
TGT GTA GAA GAG	GAA GTA TAT CCA	AAC AAC ACA GTA	ACG	
Cys Val Glu Glu	Glu Val Tyr Pro	Asn Asn Thr Val	Thr	

3488	3497	3506	3515
TGT AAT AAT TAT	ACT GGG ACT CAA	GAA GAA TAT GAG	GGT
Cys Asn Asn Tyr	Thr Gly Thr Gln	Glu Glu Tyr Glu	Gly

3524	3533	3542	3551
ACG TAC ACT TCT	CGT AAT CAA GGA	TAT GAC GAA GCC	TAT
Thr Tyr Thr Ser	Arg Asn Gln Gly	Tyr Asp Glu Ala	Tyr

3560	3569	3578	3587	3596
GGT AAT AAC CCT	TCC GTA CCA GCT	GAT TAC GCT TCA	GTC	
Gly Asn Asn Pro	Ser Val Pro Ala	Asp Tyr Ala Ser	Val	

Figure 14 (Cont. 15)

3605	3614	3623	3632	
TAT GAA GAA AAA TCG	TAT ACA GAT GGA	CGA AGA GAG	AAT	
Tyr Glu Glu Lys Ser	Tyr Thr Asp Gly	Arg Arg Glu	Asn	
3641	3650	3659	3668	
CCT TGT GAA TCT AAC	AGA GGC TAT GGG	GAT TAC ACA	CCA	
Pro Cys Glu Ser Asn	Arg Gly Tyr Gly	Asp Tyr Thr	Pro	
3677	3686	3695	3704	3713
CTA CCG GCT GGT TAT	GTA ACA AAG GAT	TTA GAG TAC	TTC	
Leu Pro Ala Gly Tyr	Val Thr Lys Asp	Leu Glu Tyr	Phe	
3722	3731	3740	3749	
CCA GAG ACC GAT AAG	GTA TGG ATT GAG	ATC GGA GAA	ACA	
Pro Glu Thr Asp Lys	Val Trp Ile Glu	Ile Gly Glu	Thr	
3758	3767	3776	3785	
GAA GGA ACA TTC ATC	GTG GAT AGC GTG	GAA TTA CTC	CTT	
Glu Gly Thr Phe Ile	Val Asp Ser Val	Glu Leu Leu	Leu	
3794	3803	3813	3823	3833
ATG GAG GAA TAA	GATACGTTAT	AAAATGTAAC	GTATGCAAAT	
MET Glu Glu				

Figure 14 (Cont. 16)

3843	3853	3863	3873	3883
AAAGAATGAT	TACTGACCTA	TATTAACAGA	TAAATAAGAA	AATTTTATA
3893	3903	3913	3923	
CGAATAAAAA	ACGGACATCA	CTCTTAAGAG	AATGATGTCC	

FIGURE 15

a)

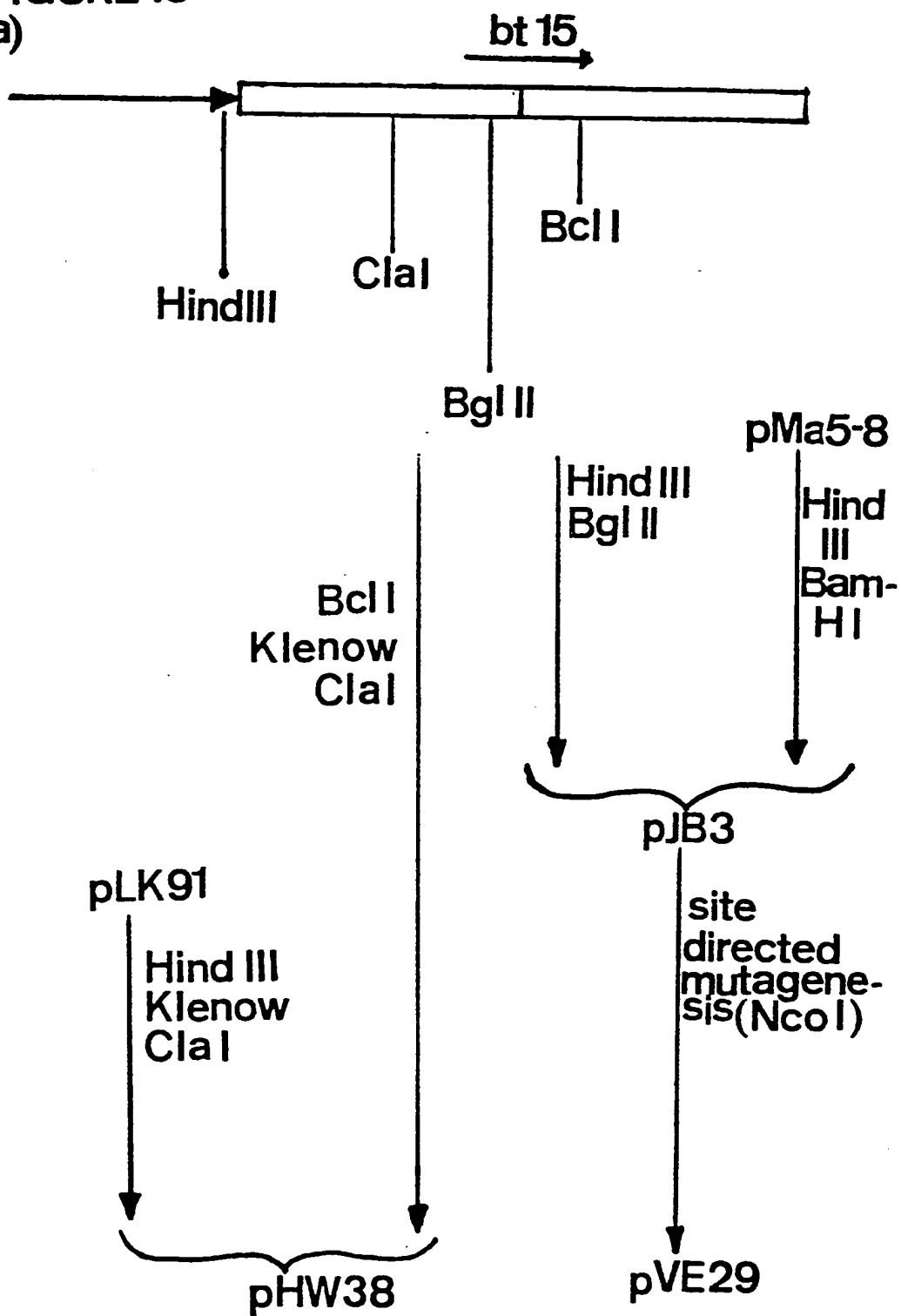
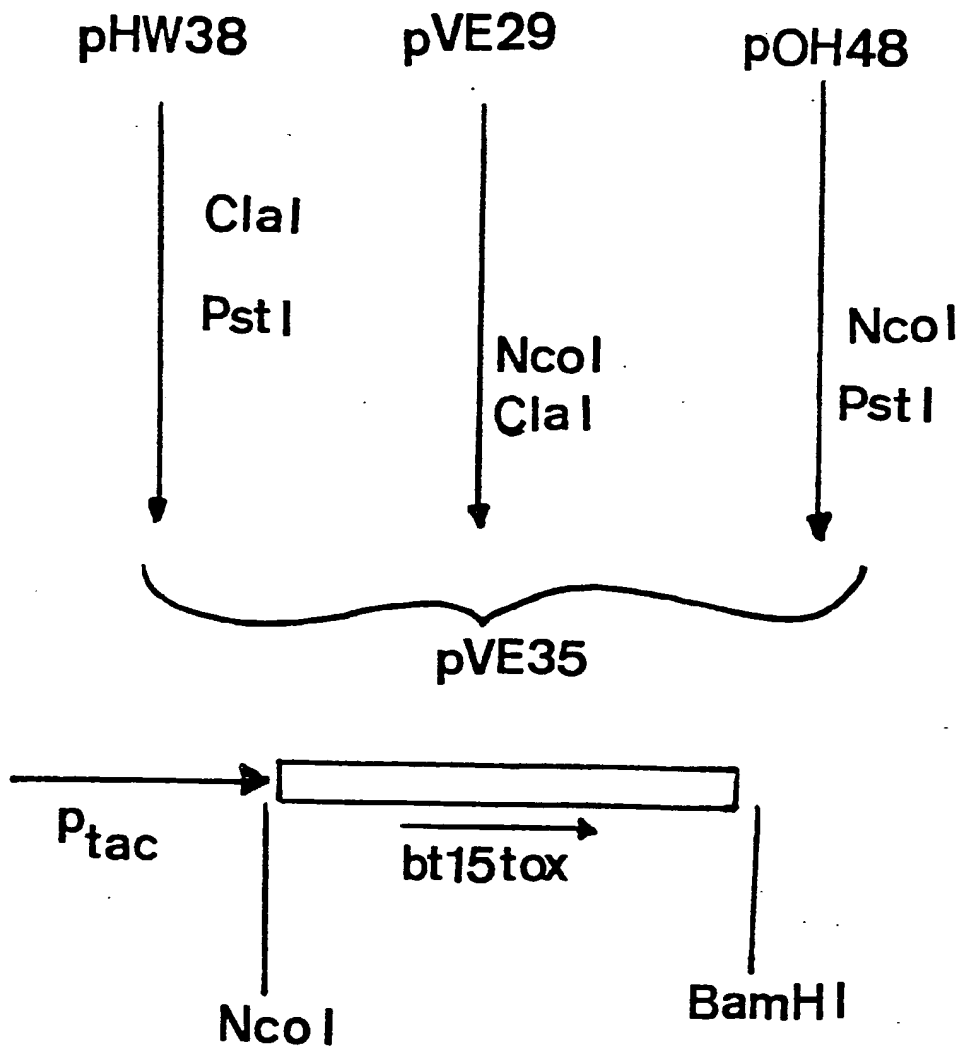


Fig. 15 (cont)

b)



C)

pVE35

pGSJ141

NcoI
Klenow
BamHIClaI
Klenow
BamHI

pTVE47

pDE110

NcoI
Klenow
HindIIIStuI
HindIII

pTHW88

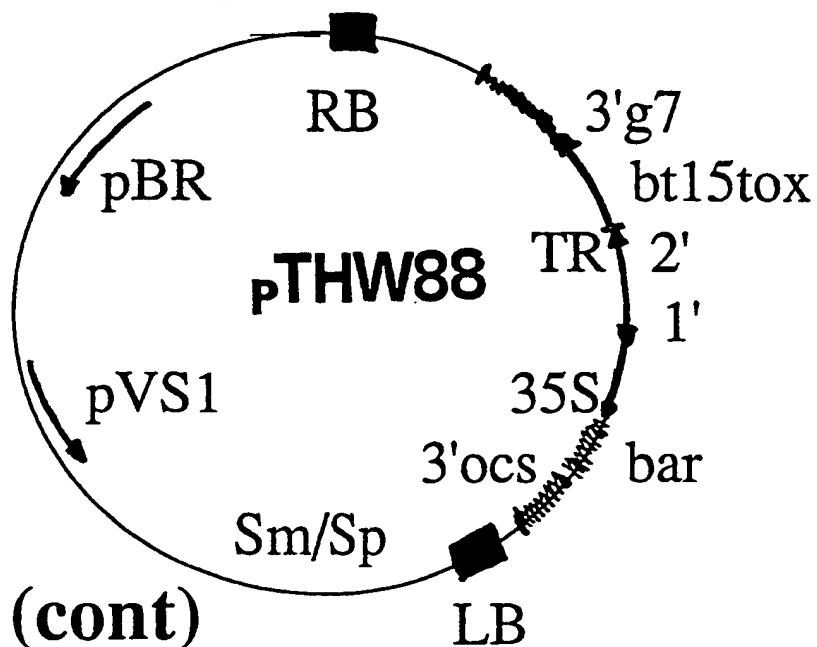
**Fig. 15 (cont)**

FIGURE 16
a)

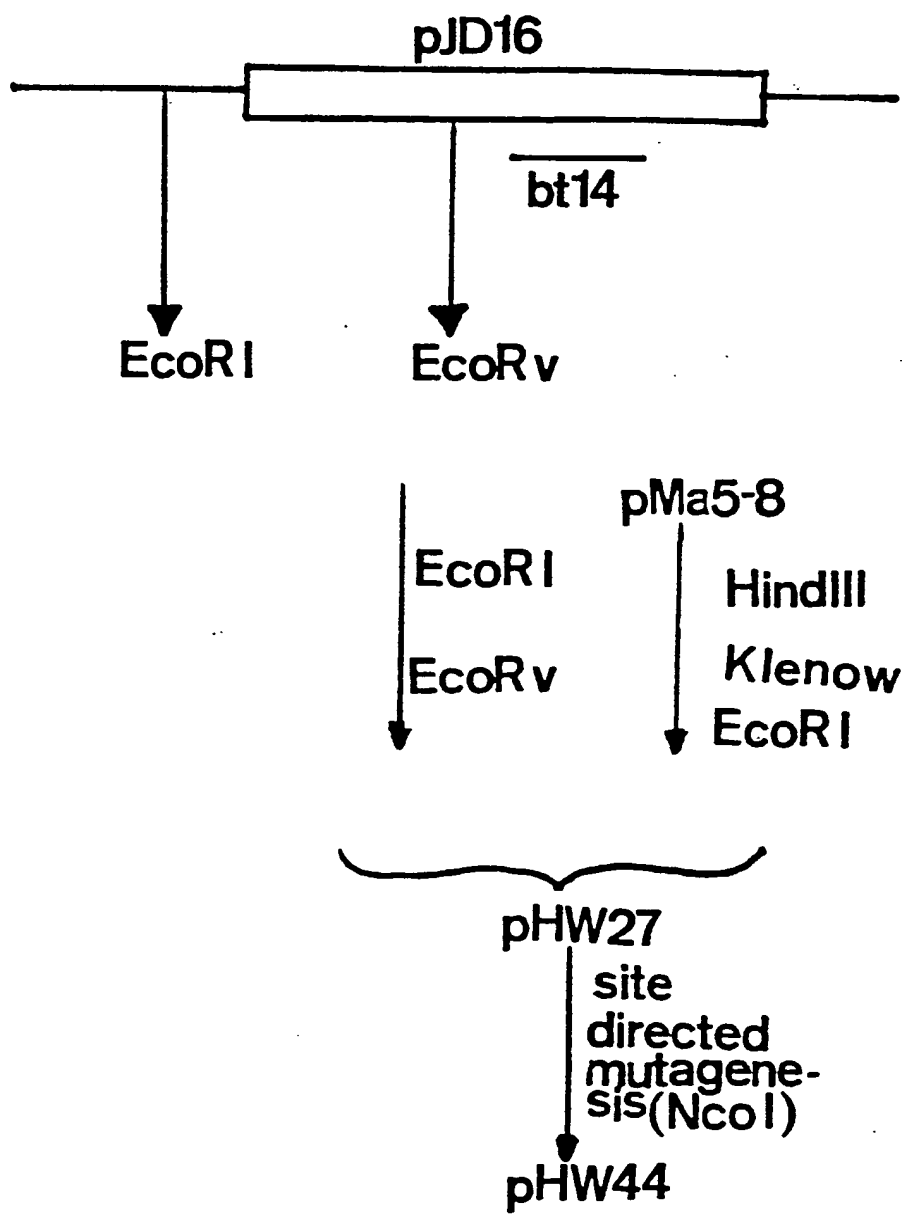


FIGURE 16

b)

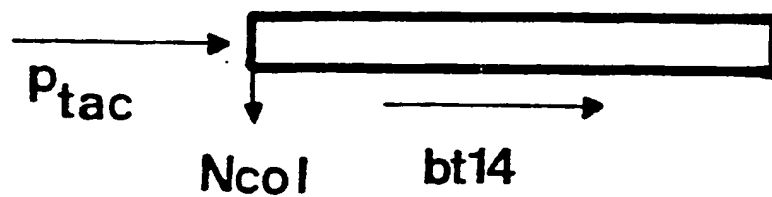
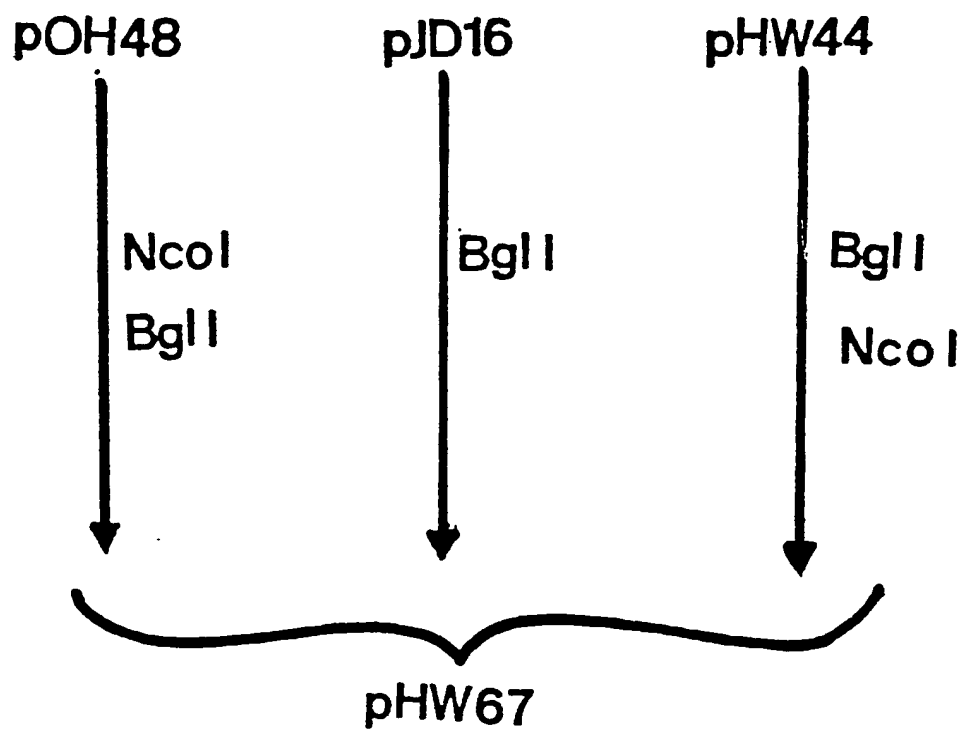


FIGURE 16

c)

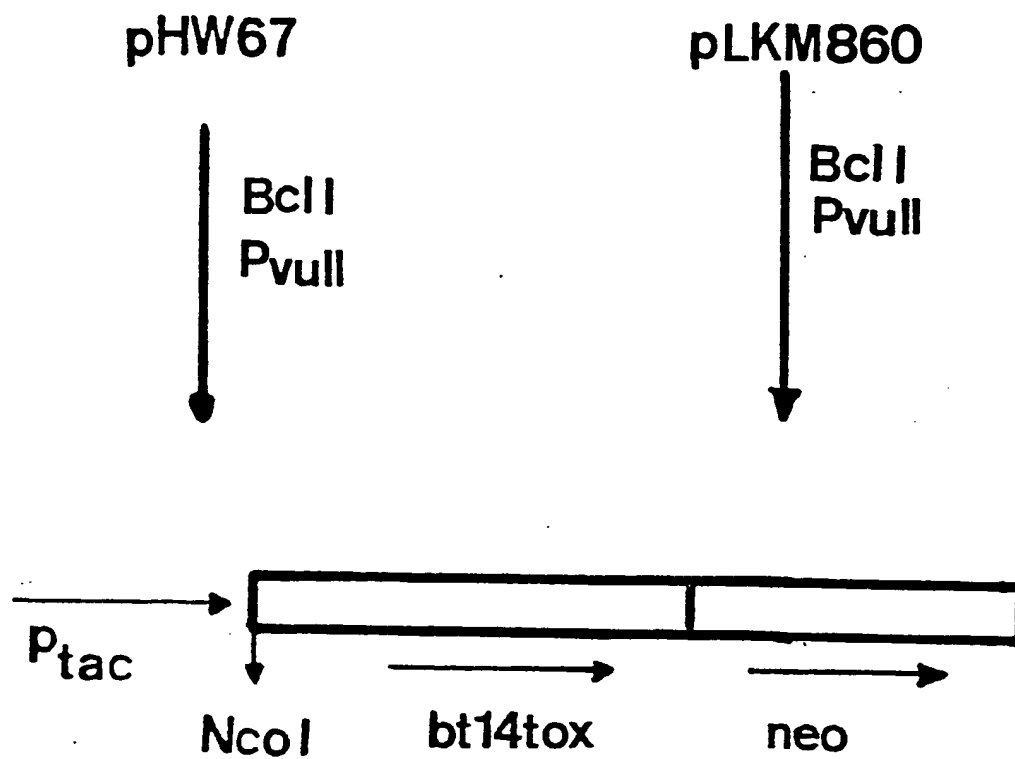


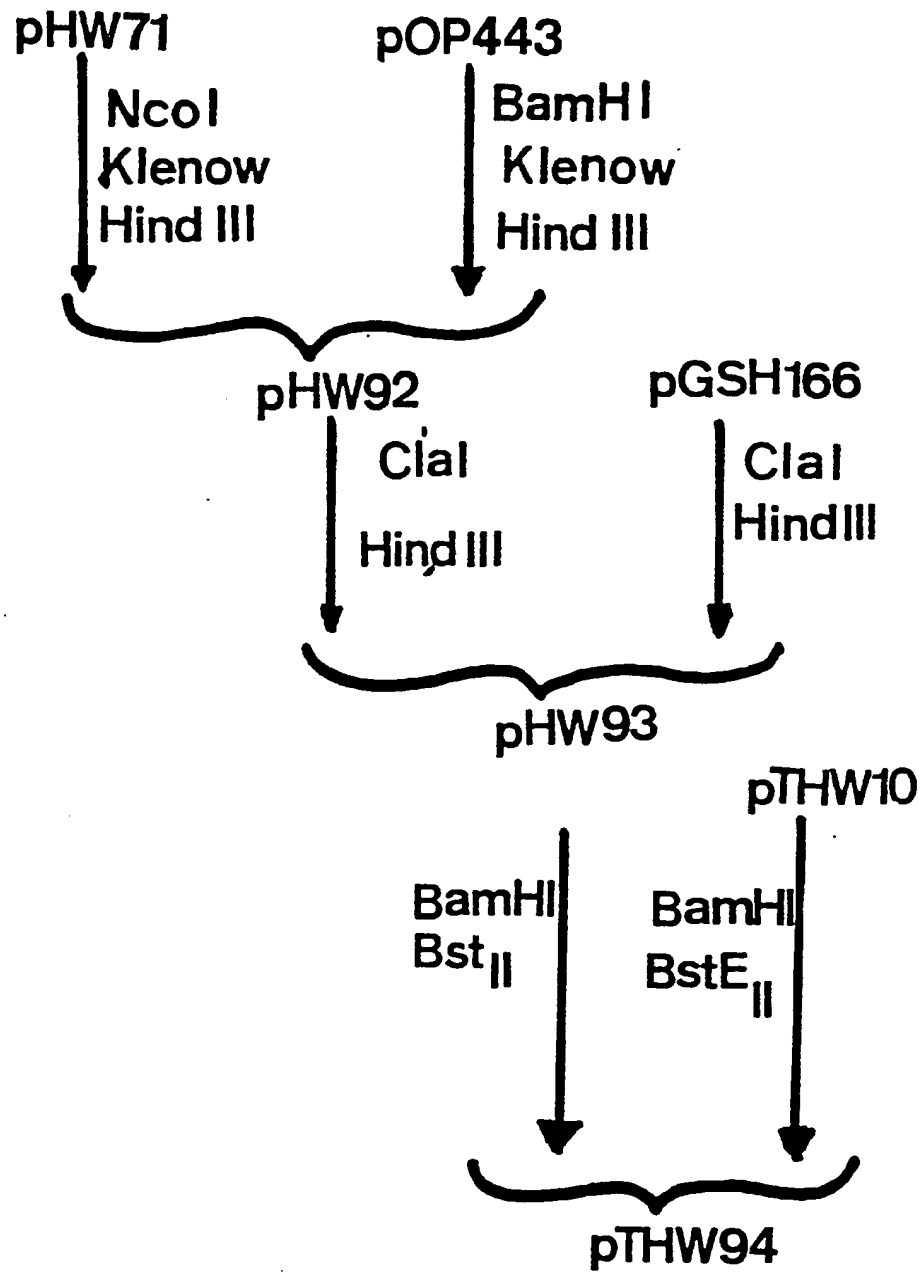
FIGURE 16 (CONT)**d)**

FIGURE 16 (CONT)

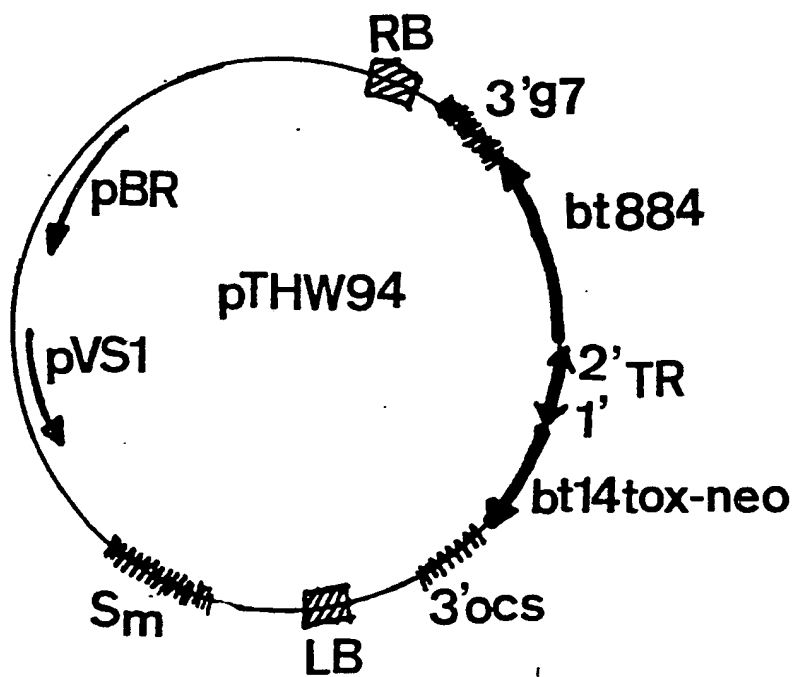
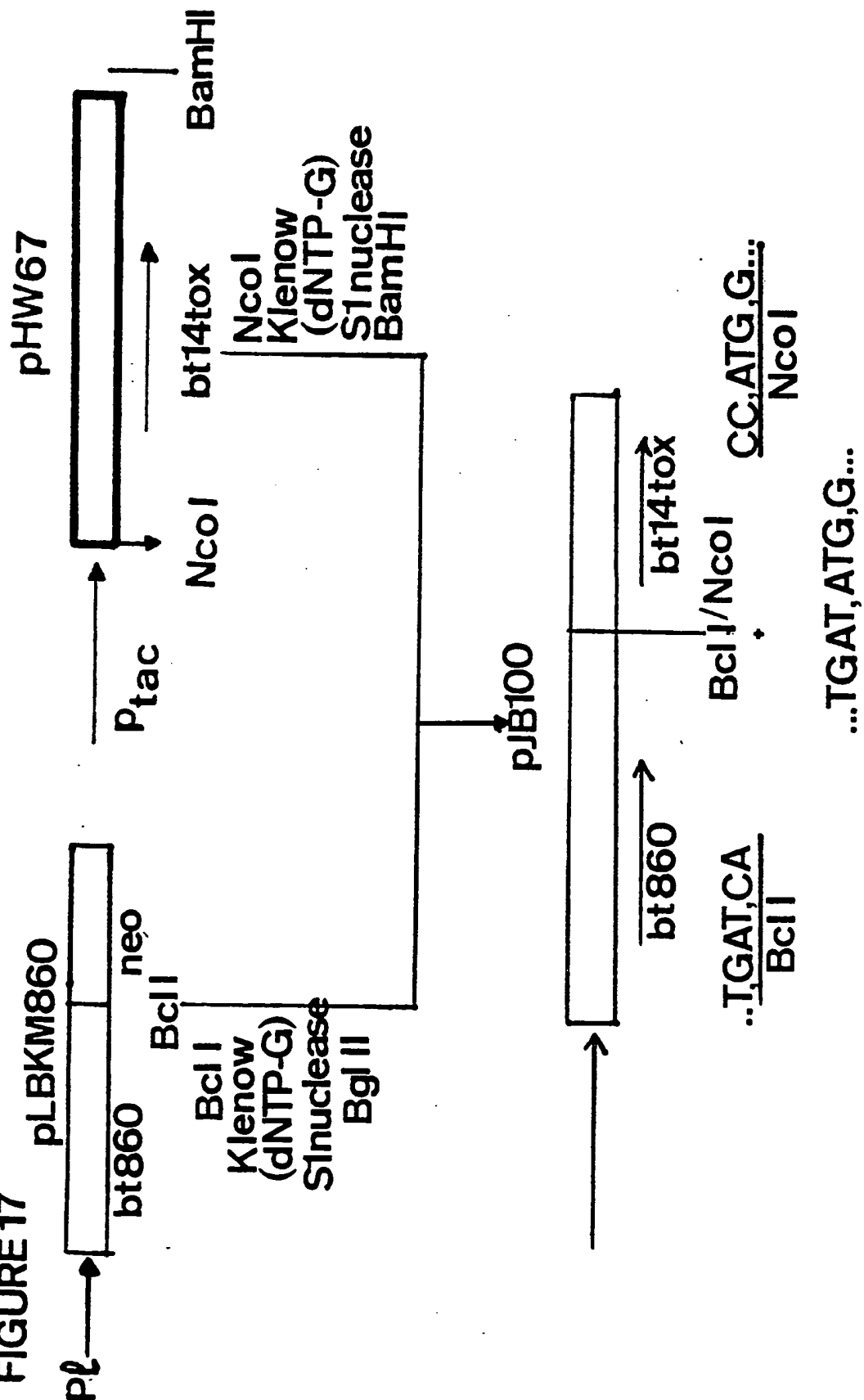


FIGURE 17



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/EP 90/00905

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) * According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC IPC ⁵ : C 12 N 15/32, A 01 N 63/00														
II. FIELDS SEARCHED <div style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Minimum Documentation Searched ⁷</div> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Classification System</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Classification Symbols</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">IPC⁵</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">C 12 N 15/32, A 01 N 63/00</td> </tr> </table> <div style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched ⁸</div>			Classification System	Classification Symbols	IPC ⁵	C 12 N 15/32, A 01 N 63/00								
Classification System	Classification Symbols													
IPC ⁵	C 12 N 15/32, A 01 N 63/00													
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT ⁹ <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%; padding: 5px;">Category ⁹</th> <th style="width: 60%; padding: 5px;">Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²</th> <th style="width: 30%; padding: 5px;">Relevant to Claim No. ¹³</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">Y</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> EP, A, 0228838 (MYCOGEN CORP.) 15 July 1987 see the whole document (cited in the application) <div style="text-align: center;">--</div> </td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> 1,13-16, 18,19 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">Y</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> WO, A, 88/08880 (ECOGEN, INCORPORATED) 17 November 1988 see abstract; page 11, line 18 - page 13, line 12; page 25, line 9 - page 27, line 15; page 41, line 33 - page 4, line 28; claims <div style="text-align: center;">--</div> </td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> 1,13-16, 18-19 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"> EP, A, 0193259 (PLANT GENETIC SYSTEMS N.V.) 3 September 1986 see the whole document (cited in the application) <div style="text-align: center;">--</div> </td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> 1,13-16, 18-19 </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category ⁹	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³	Y	EP, A, 0228838 (MYCOGEN CORP.) 15 July 1987 see the whole document (cited in the application) <div style="text-align: center;">--</div>	1,13-16, 18,19	Y	WO, A, 88/08880 (ECOGEN, INCORPORATED) 17 November 1988 see abstract; page 11, line 18 - page 13, line 12; page 25, line 9 - page 27, line 15; page 41, line 33 - page 4, line 28; claims <div style="text-align: center;">--</div>	1,13-16, 18-19	A	EP, A, 0193259 (PLANT GENETIC SYSTEMS N.V.) 3 September 1986 see the whole document (cited in the application) <div style="text-align: center;">--</div>	1,13-16, 18-19
Category ⁹	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³												
Y	EP, A, 0228838 (MYCOGEN CORP.) 15 July 1987 see the whole document (cited in the application) <div style="text-align: center;">--</div>	1,13-16, 18,19												
Y	WO, A, 88/08880 (ECOGEN, INCORPORATED) 17 November 1988 see abstract; page 11, line 18 - page 13, line 12; page 25, line 9 - page 27, line 15; page 41, line 33 - page 4, line 28; claims <div style="text-align: center;">--</div>	1,13-16, 18-19												
A	EP, A, 0193259 (PLANT GENETIC SYSTEMS N.V.) 3 September 1986 see the whole document (cited in the application) <div style="text-align: center;">--</div>	1,13-16, 18-19												
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>* Special categories of cited documents: ¹⁰</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"Δ" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>														
IV. CERTIFICATION <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search 6th August 1990 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Date of Mailing of this International Search Report <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">06.09.90</div> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> International Searching Authority <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE</div> </td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Signature of Authorized Officer <div style="text-align: center;">R.J. Eernisse </div> </td> </tr> </table>			Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search 6th August 1990	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">06.09.90</div>	International Searching Authority <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE</div>	Signature of Authorized Officer <div style="text-align: center;">R.J. Eernisse </div>								
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search 6th August 1990	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">06.09.90</div>													
International Searching Authority <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE</div>	Signature of Authorized Officer <div style="text-align: center;">R.J. Eernisse </div>													

III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)		
Category *	Citation of Document, ** with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to Claim No.
Y	EP, A, 0192319 (MYCOGEN CORPORATION) 27 August 1986 see the whole document, in particular page 6, lines 20-24 --	1
Y	EP, A, 0221024 (SANDOZ AG) 6 May 1987 see the whole document, in particular page 3, lines 30-34 --	1
A	Patent Abstracts of Japan, vol. 12, no. 391 (C-537), 18 October 1988, & JP, A, 63137684 (SUMITOMO CHEM. CO., LTD) 9 June 1988 --	1
E	Patent Abstracts of Japan, vol. 13, no. 326 (C-620), 24 July 1989, & JP, A, 01104177 (SUMITOMO CHEM. CO., LTD) 21 April 1989 --	1
T	Chemical Abstracts, vol. 112, no. 21, 21 May 1990, (Columbus, Ohio, US), G. Honee et al.: "A translation fusion product of two different insecticidal crystal protein genes of Bacillus thuringiensis exhibits an enlarged insecticidal spectrum", page 262, abstract 193742f, & Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 1990, 56(3), 823-5 -----	1

**ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 9000905
SA 37347

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 04/09/90. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP-A- 0228838	15-07-87	JP-A- 62143689	26-06-87
WO-A- 8808880	17-11-88	AU-A- 1782388	06-12-88
		EP-A- 0359771	28-03-90
EP-A- 0193259	03-09-86	AU-B- 594036	01-03-90
		AU-A- 5245886	24-07-86
		JP-A- 62111689	22-05-87
EP-A- 0192319	27-08-86	US-A- 4695462	22-09-87
		US-A- 4695455	22-09-87
		JP-A- 61172806	04-08-86
		US-A- 4861595	29-08-89
EP-A- 0221024	06-05-87	AU-B- 596125	26-04-90
		AU-A- 6450986	07-05-87
		JP-A- 62107782	19-05-87
		US-A- 4797279	10-01-89